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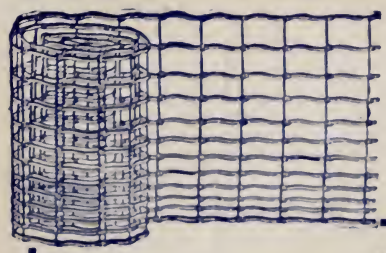

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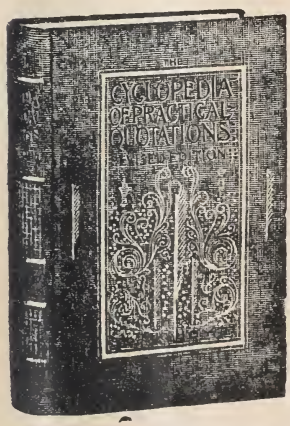

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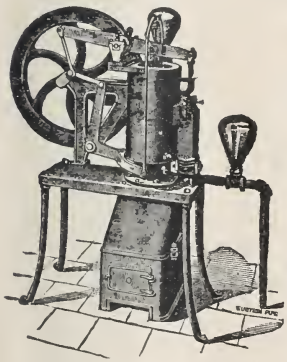

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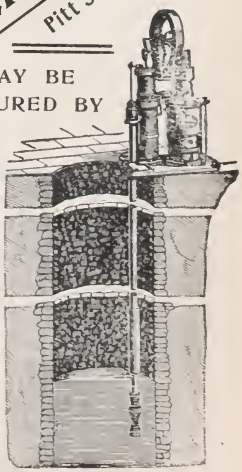

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THE HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

MELBOURNE, Feb. 25th, 1901.

A Silent Ministry.

The Federal Government, to say the least, is distinctly disappointing. The much vaunted aggressiveness of the Labour Party when on the cross benches is diminishing into an inactivity which would be unpardonable in any other political party, to the Labour Party it is unforgivable. With its usual felicitousness of expression, Mr. Deakin at the A.N.A. celebrations in Melbourne on the 1st inst., accurately described the present state of politics as one of suspended animation. Naturally one was inclined to expect something from the Federal Labour Party. It has, however, done nothing. Mr. Fisher has made a very comprehensive tour through Queensland, visiting his constituents, speaking many times, but he has most carefully eschewed current politics, avoiding any reference whatever to the problems that ought to be tackled, and upon which the country has a right to expect pronouncement. Even at the A.N.A. celebrations, when politicians are expected to say something, if there is anything to be said, Mr. Fisher still preserved the same sphinx-like attitude. Now one does not wish the Prime Minister to commit indiscretions of speech, but the country looks for an indication of some interest in and opinion of current political questions. He must not complain if in the eyes of the public he was at that gathering completely overshadowed by Mr. Deakin. With a masterly grasp of detail, a thorough grip of the political situation, and the vision of a political seer, Mr. Deakin dealt with the political problems that confront Australia with a certainty and an assurance that put the Prime Minister to shame. It would almost look as though the Prime Minister had been unable to thoroughly grip the national situation, as though he was afraid to launch out upon a sea which also he had not charted. Has the Party assumed office before it was ready? Certain it is that the Party could not bring suspicion of this upon itself more thoroughly than it has done by its policy of taking things easily and doing nothing. Indeed, some remarks that have been dropped by Ministers make it appear that the Party knows that it is not destined to occupy the Ministerial benches for very long. It cannot at the rate it is going. With a lack of interest and initiative like they have so far displayed, the most likely thing to happen is the combining of the other forces in the House to oust them from their position. Indeed, that contingency seems likely to come about sooner than was at first anticipated, and the sooner it comes the better will it be for Australian politics.

Wanted, a National Party.

What is needed is a great national party, and the man to lead it is Mr. Deakin. Some informal conversation which has been held between Mr. Joseph Cook and himself would seem to indicate that there might be possibilities of merging, and if that results, the temporary accession of the Labour Party to power will have been well worth while. Mr. Deakin's speech on A.N.A. Day was militant, prescient, masterful, comprehensive, decided; that of Mr. Fisher faulty, hesitant, timorous and empty. The latter policy is likely to distinguish the Government when the next session of Parliament begins. It must adopt one of two courses, and in either case it is likely to go under. There is no middle course open for it. Either it will do as it did in the closing hours of last session, when it simply dealt with non-contentious measures, or else it will ride for a fall by bringing extreme measures to the fore, and pushing them for all they are worth. The timorous policy is one which is most likely to be pursued. A national party, including the best of the other three parties in the House, would be a source of magnificent strength. It is precisely what is needed at this juncture, when there are so many problems to solve. The defence question, the population question, finance, the establishment of an Agricultural Bureau, the acquisition of the Northern Territory and its development—these alone are items which may well unite separate parties in the House. All Australia would hail with delight the formation of a Ministry which would combine the present diverse elements and set it on one side of the House, with the Labour Party on the other. The advantage would be great to both sides. It is possible that some erratic and ungovernable spirits like Sir William Lyne would be driven for shelter into the arms of the Labour Party. But that would be

a distinct gain to the other side, although the Labour Party would suffer proportionately. The coming session will probably see Mr. Deakin in the saddle once more.

Mr. Deakin's Duty.

It becomes clearer every day that Mr. Deakin will have to oppose the Labour Party. They have opposed him at every point where their own desires came into conflict with his. But it is interesting to note how angry some of them are when a hint is given that he may oppose them. One of the State members for Ballarat, speaking the other day of the possibility of an understanding between Mr. Deakin and the Opposition, said that "Mr. Deakin had been politically unfaithful in endeavouring to ally himself with Conservatives." There is nothing to show that he has been, but if he did, the Labour Party would be to blame, for even in his own constituency they have fought him, and are making preparations to fight him again. The Labour Party insists on standing aloof from everyone. They have themselves to blame if others at last leave them severely alone, and mark out a course where they will not need to be considered.

The Federal Government's Spasm.

The Federal Government did get one spasm of activity, but it was an arbitrary action, and beyond their rights. Last year £250,000 was voted by the Commonwealth Parliament for coastal defence purposes. At the time an undertaking was given that no important steps should be taken without consulting Parliament. This was as it should have been. The question of our national defence is far too important a matter to be dealt with in any but the most comprehensive way. Parliament should have a voice in it. But the Fisher Government startled the community the other day by announcing its intention of ordering at once, without troubling to get the opinion of Parliament, two torpedo boat destroyers of the "Rivers" type, and to get a third built in Australia. What induced this new-found zeal it is impossible to say. Possibly it was the result of popular amusement and annoyance that the party which pitched the Government out of office on the eve of recess, and adroitly came into the rewards of office at a most judicious time, when a comparative term of safety was before them, seemed to be idling its time away, and giving no justification for its high-handed and piratical action. The community wanted a reason for the Government's being! Good, the Government would do something flamboyant, glaring. Australia might be invaded in the near future. The Government would start a navy.

An Unworthy Quibble.

In childish way it seemed to have utterly lost sight of the fact that the defence question has not been discussed in Parliament, and that no steps should have been taken until a general scheme had been decided upon. What matter should be open to discussion by Parliament more than the general principle of defence, seeing that as yet we have not launched out? What if, when the Fisher Government goes, and it will not last a great time, and when a general effective scheme is decided, these boats should not fit it, and expert advice shows that the quarter of a million should have been spent in other ways? Our funds are not so ample that orders for battleships can be given on the decision of a cabinet in these early stages. But as a matter of honour, the Government should have allowed the question to be discussed. The promise of the Deakin Government should have been respected. The circumstances under which the vote was passed rendered this necessary. It was not a question as to the personnel of the Government under which the final decision should be made. The money was put aside as a careful business man puts aside money to prepare for certain expenditures that will have to be made. The Labour Party was party to the understanding, and when it now says that it is not bound by any promise made by the previous Government it is juggling with honour.

Premature Action.

The action is likely to create a revulsion of feeling against the Government. Everyone was willing to give it a fair chance to show what it could do. It has done absolutely nothing in the way of legislation so far to justify its existence. What it did do before the recess was merely to complete what the Deakin Government began. And if the best it can do is to flout the expressed wish of Parliament and to play a high hand, the sooner it goes out of the office that it occupied without any reason the better. What is wanted in connection with the defence question is a non-party discussion in the House. We are not in the position of the old country, where they have a general scheme which only needs increasing as necessities demand. We want first of all to know where we are to go, and what we are to do. It is very easy to pose as the party eager to defend the Commonwealth, and to rush anywhere in anxiety to manifest zeal. Hurry does not by any means imply zeal, nor a show of activity imply wisdom. And the question naturally arises, is this class of boat the most desirable for our necessities? What scheme of defence are these boats supposed to fit? What is to follow? Has the question of submarine or battleship been fully considered? Is the decision likely to affect the negotiations Mr. Deakin was carrying on with the Admiralty covering the whole question? Here again Mr. Fisher and his party err. Mr. Fisher says that under an old agreement he can do what he has done, and that he is merely replacing vessels of the "Cerberus" type, now obsolete. But that is beside the question. The whole matter was in the air. Parliament expected to discuss it, a promise was made irrespective of party, and the Fisher Government, at an utter loss to justify itself, has seized an opportunity to glaringly advertise itself

and to pose as national benefactors. But the thing has failed. The frantic attempt was too obvious. No war cloud is visible above the horizon, and Parliament meets in a month or two. Prudence and common honesty would have ordered a wait.

An Open Path.

Now had the Fisher Government been really desirous of making a name and handing themselves down to posterity as the party which recognised needs and seized opportunities, there was one question they might have taken up with honour to themselves, benefit to the Commonwealth, and without any breach of faith. Far more important at the moment than defence, and indeed a necessary preliminary to defence is population, and again, population: immigration, and again, immigration. But to get that is precisely what the Labour Government will not do, although it is Australia's most crying need. The Labour party has repeatedly stated, in blunt and even cruel terms, that it does not want its opportunities interfered with, and that it does want to keep Australia to itself. Most foolish and short-sighted of policies this! Blind indeed must the party be when it cannot see how the general prosperity of the country would be advanced if our great areas were closely peopled. If there be any part of our coasts that is open to danger it is the Northern Territory, rich and unpeopled. Real danger lies there, not so much from an invasion by war, as from alien races. For in spite of precautions, of customs' watchfulness, of poll taxes, they quietly drop in from the contiguous lands. Java alone is full of potentialities—Java, with its teeming population, almost overflowing its borders, its population increasing at such a rate that in fifty years or so it will have doubled, an almost terrifying problem, increasing daily, while in the southern portions of the continent, out of sight and sound of it, we work and play and sleep in blissful ignorance of it. Here truly was needful work, here, and with regard to the population of the continent generally. But the Labour Government would not dare to tackle that problem, for fear of the ominous rumble of anger that would arise from the ranks of Labour everywhere. The messages sent by some of the Labour bodies to Britain to the effect that opportunities do not exist, and that the inducements to possible immigrants are unwarranted, have been moved by no compassion for their fellows, but by a brutal and callous selfishness that are the antithesis of fraternalism. First things first. Here was the country's need. But the Labour Government switched on to a safer track to save its skin. The only comfort in the sorry business is that the wild cheer that was anticipated from the spirited defence movement has failed to materialise. The motive was too apparent.

A Humane Action.

Credit, however, where credit is due. In another matter the Government has done well. When the Lascar survivors from the "Clan Ranald" came on shore, an over-zealous officer, fearful of any dereliction of duty, was going to take finger marks and observe other conditions laid down in the Act, but the Government forbade it, and ordered that no conditions whatever should be enforced. The Lascars were taken good care of, and the bungle that occurred over the "Petriana," and which brought the Commonwealth into such disrepute, is not likely to happen again. For the Minister has ordered that in future, if similar accidents occur, which Heaven forbid, shipwrecked aliens shall be treated with every courtesy and abundant hospitality. The Lascars from the "Clan Ranald" were brought over to Melbourne by their shipping company, and shipped by another of the company's boats.

Broken Hill Trouble.

The Broken Hill Labour trouble has been the event of the month. Mr. Justice Higgins opened the court in the disturbed city. The procedure exemplified in one way what methods of gaining justice should always be, simple and accessible. With very little of court etiquette and an utter absence of usual court difficulties, this great case was opened. The powers of the judge who administers the Arbitration Act are so wide that, if he chooses, he may dispense with many of the ordinary preliminaries. In the meantime, while the case progressed, mob matters quieted down for a while, though the acts of violence and outrage were afterwards repeated. Wiser counsels undoubtedly prevailed. When times of excitement like these occur, men do and say strange things. For instance, it created no small amusement when the combined unions repudiated the suggestion that the dynamite outrages came from the side of the men, but intimated that they would stand by all and sundry who were hailed before the court for disorders. The monotony of affairs, for it was hard to keep up excitement when the first ebullitions were over, was relieved by some comical incidents. For instance, the newsboys, first on one Broken Hill paper, and then on the other, struck for better terms. In the case of the newspaper which sides with the men the boys carried the game so far that the aid of the police had to be invoked. Now this paper has indulged in the wildest tirades against the police, and has used up its vocabulary of invective against them and the Government that took the precaution to send a sufficient body of police to the place to keep order. It is just an amusing illustration of the tactics of the ultra-Socialist, who decries any form of government but his own, and flies to its shelter the moment his safety is imperilled.

Where the Men Were Right.

A study of the position makes the task of apportioning praise and blame easy. In some respects the men were quite within their rights. There was, without doubt, good reason for dissatisfaction at the proposed reduction of wages by the Proprietary when other companies were willing to adhere to the old rate. The men are not to be blamed for wanting good wages. Thank God the days are quickly going by in Australasia when men are expected to keep families in decency and comfort on poor wages. The days of the sweater are numbered, and rightly so. Moreover, they are asking no unreasonable thing if they wish for special rates in Broken Hill. Living is dear and rents are high, and the dry climate and arid character of the country make life there not one of the most desirable of things. The houses, most of them, partake of the ephemeral character of everything else. Not many of the people who go to Broken Hill go with the intention of living there a day longer than is necessary. Civil servants, most of them, get an extra allowance for living there. It is recognised that life there demands some compensations. Everything that would raise the standard of living the men had a right to ask.

And Where They Were Wrong.

But where they failed was in flouting the law, and this is exactly the point of weakness in all the industrial troubles that take place. Eventually the law has to be resorted to, and the Labour cause would commend itself to the public in an infinitely greater degree were it to be law abiding. The first error of judgment was in leaving work. The Proprietary Co. offered to place the balance of wages in dispute in a special account, to be dealt with as the court might direct. Had the men kept on, they would have been scores of thousands of pounds to the good, and they would have gained what was of infinitely greater value even than that, the respect and admiration of the public. In no wise whatever would their interests have been depreciated. But they ceased work and each side stigmatised the action of the other in strong terms. The one insisted that the men had struck, the other that there had been a lock-out. The second error was made when it was decided to inflame public opinion. The ultimate issue is in no way affected by it. It would have arrived without delay without the incendiary speeches. The third error, and that was a very serious one, lay in handing over the leadership to a discredited person, discredited on his own admission. Leaders of public movements should be above reproach, and the cause of the men has suffered tremendously in public opinion.

Useless and Foolish Tactics.

Then there was no need for picketing. It was at best only a grandiose kind of exhibition. The word of the general manager had been given that no work should be done. The promise would have been kept. Public opinion lay behind it, and that opinion would have risen up in anger had the pledge been broken. Had the men agreed to this honourable proposal of truce the processional troubles would never have arisen, and so much that is regrettable would have been avoided. The unions complained sadly of the precautions taken by the Government to preserve order, and actually had the impertinence to assert that the police were the cause of all the trouble. Mr. Wade was castigated in no measured terms. But he was bound to see the law observed, no matter who broke it, or was likely to break it. And one can imagine what would have been the result had the company been childish enough to resort to such childish exhibitions, or to engage in such vitriolic language. Mr. Wade's action would then have been applauded by the men. Possibly the folly of the men was expressed in nothing so much as in their statement that the dynamite outrages had been engineered by the police. It is not to be supposed that these were arranged by the leaders, but nevertheless they happened, and the unions threw a sheltering wing over all and sundry who were to be dealt with by the law. The steady progress of justice, however, had a steadying effect on the men, and as the days progressed the exhibitions gradually diminished. Processions are not satisfactory things if no one takes any notice.

Shipwrecks and Liquor.

On the 31st January the turret steamer "Clan Ranald" left the port of Adelaide, wheat laden, soon after daybreak. Seven hours afterwards she listed heavily and became unmanageable, and some eight hours after that turned turtle and sank. Forty of her crew, white and coloured, were drowned. The enquiry has failed to discover the cause of the disaster. Even the diver who inspected the wreck as it lay almost bottom upward on the floor of the ocean, could discover no reason. Of course he could not inspect of the whole hull. But whatever may have been the cause, whether a rock was struck, or the cargo badly stowed, or a seacock open, or a leak sprung, whatever it may have been, the damaging fact remains that the captain, incapacitated through drink, was unable to take the ship out of port. The admission was reluctantly made by the chief mate. And this raises a question that is far above party or sect, and which concerns the welfare and safety of the public. It is not by any means an exaggeration to say the coasts of Australia and New Zealand are strewn with wrecks that happened while their captains were under the influence of alcohol. The risks to the travelling public, both by land and by sea, are too great to allow men to have charge of public conveyances if they cannot abstain. Some railway companies in America forbid their employés to take alcohol, and a breach of the rule brings instant dismissal. The shipping companies should insist upon

officers being total abstainers. It is simply on a line with the precaution that makes companies demand a mental attainment and a physical fitness. It is all the more necessary because at sea passengers are so absolutely helpless to do anything for their own safety. It was only the other day that Mr. Kettle, S.M., in New Zealand, adjudicating in the case of a lost vessel, where liquor was in considerable prominence, spoke strongly about the matter. The court gave as its opinion that the master of the boat was "given to insobriety," and one of the owners testified that the man had previously been discharged by him from the command of a steamer on account of drunkenness. Mr. Kettle spoke of recommending that a clause should be inserted in the Act making it compulsory for owners to report to the proper authorities the fact that a master's discharge is due to drunkenness. To avoid wrecks and loss of human life that otherwise are bound to take place it would also be well to insist on total abstinence, and to abolish packet licences.

Preventive Measures.

The loss of the "Clan Ranald," read in conjunction with the part played by wireless telegraphy in the "Republic"-"Florida" collision off the American coast, raises the question as to whether all boats trading to Australia should not be compelled to carry wireless telegraphy apparatus. If that had been done, the probability is that the men would all have been saved, for a passing boat was signalled, though, unfortunately, the signals were not observed. Now that the system is so complete and successful, and its efficacy as a life-saver is so clearly demonstrated, there is every reason why the installation should be insisted upon. We do not forget the danger, the anxiety and hopelessness of those who were unfortunate enough to be on the "Perthshire" and the "Monowai" as they drifted helplessly about the Pacific, nor the watery graves that so many hundreds have found round our coasts. Ship owners themselves should without pressure make the provision for safety; failing that, the Commonwealth's duty is clear.

Labour's Foresight.

The New South Wales Labour movement is advancing by leaps and bounds. At a meeting of the Sydney Labour Council a resolution was passed to the effect that, "Every society and council affiliated shall agree to and abide by the decision of the council in all matters requiring its intervention and judgment." There is far more of the drastic and far-reaching in this than appears at first sight. It really means that the Council takes control of all industrial matters connected with the unions affiliated with it, and that in the event of the Council so deciding, the whole of the unions would act concertedly. Now, each union acts on its own initiative, follows its own sweet will, decides its own affairs, resolving to go out on strike or to remain neutral according to the dictation of its own wisdom. If carried into effect the new power must mean that at the stroke of a pen industry throughout the State could be paralysed, and a monstrous boycott instituted. Truly it is a tremendous power for a body of men to gain. From a Labour point of view, it is quite a strategic move. A State could be reduced to the most abject submission if it were carried out successfully. It contains the vastest potentialities. But while it presupposes so much in one direction it must of necessity include the power to forbid a single industry taking matters into its own hands and striking. It is no secret that some strikes lately have not had the moral support of the majority of unions, although financial aid has been extended. In this way the newly gained power may work vast good. It all depends on the kind of Labour man who gets a position on the Council as to whether the change will be for general good. If the sanest and wisest become the advisers, it is reasonable to suppose that they would halt long before plunging a State into the vortex of widespread industrial strife, and locking up a country's industries. Also, under similar conditions, they would refuse to allow any single union to go to extremes without exhausting every means of settling the dispute amicably. It may mark a tremendous advance for good, and make the unions the partners of the Government in establishing equal and just conditions; it may mean the opposite. All depends on the leaders. But the unions are not unanimous in granting this power. The resolution was carried by 51 votes to 50. Taken all round, it probably represents an advance. We are inclined to think so, from present appearances, at any rate.

Lord Northcote's Speech.

Two items of the month's British news bearing on Australasia created a deal of interest and high expectations here. The one was the great speech of Lord Northcote, in which he dealt in so masterly and sympathetic a way with Australia and her problems. Lord Northcote qualified himself when here to speak for Australia. His speech showed that the Governor-General of Australia is in a very different position to that which State Governors occupied before Federation, and that the position is no sinecure. Lord Northcote's speech was so masterly and so distinctly Australian that it met with a cordial reception everywhere. But it has been so widely read and proved so acceptable that it needs no enlargement. A strong point it emphasised, though only incidentally, was the fact that the Governor-General is the one official who can speak with any authority, and it relegates the State Governors to a seat farther back than ever. Lord Northcote would richly adorn the High Commissioner's seat.

Melbourne Punch.]

Sweet are the Uses of Advertisement.

AUSTRALIA (to Lord Northcote): "Step up, old man. Get on the pedestal, where everybody can see you."

Sir Charles Lucas.

The second item was the announcement that Sir Charles Lucas, head of the British Dominions department, and Mr. A. A. Pearson, a former official of the Colonial Office, were to visit Australasia to discuss any question of interest to the self-governing dependencies. This is the first step in a road which will lead to vast possibilities of mutual understanding. Some such link between officialdom here and in Britain has been badly needed, and if Sir Charles comes with unbiased mind and open sympathies, we may look forward to good results. The unsympathetic nature of official despatches is very often liable to produce the very opposite effect to what is intended. What we have lacked has been a human and sympathetic channel through which personal feeling as well as conviction could flow.

Federal Revenue.

The Federal Customs revenue is shrinking in tremendous proportions. Mr. Tudor, the Minister of Customs, is said to regard the position with equanimity, and even with pleasure, looking upon it as an indication that manufactures are springing up in Australia, and that Australians are using locally-manufactured goods in preference to imported ones. If this be so, there is of course reason for congratulation. Whether, however, it be due to this or not, it is pretty evident that if the decrease continues, there will need to be some re-adjustment of taxation in order to raise sufficient money for all purposes. Commonwealth expenditure must necessarily increase fast.

New Zealand Polls.

The efforts made to upset two of the polls in New Zealand have not been successful. In the case of the Masterton district, the Labour Party attempted to have the poll declared void, while in the Hutt district, the No-license Party, which lost the issue by only a few votes, attempted to have a recount made. The former attempt failed, and the latter was also unsuccessful. The latter has, however, given some striking examples of how the devotees of liquor flout and break the law, and the investigation should have the effect of getting cleaner administration when the next poll takes place.

An Innocent (?) Commissioner.

A Mr. Carson, who was appointed by the West Australian Government to report on the liquor legislation of Victoria, New South Wales and New Zealand, has presented a report which is likely to mislead West Australian legislators, for as far as New Zealand is concerned the report is most inaccurate, and is in some respects absolutely untruthful. This is self-evident, for in one part he says that in the No-license districts a closed bar is taking the place of the open bar, that there is more secret drinking, more drinking in the homes of the people, and that there is no diminution of serious crime, implying that the gain is nil. If it were not that a statement of this kind gains some credence from its official garb, one could treat it humorously. Some of the trade must have been pulling this innocent commissioner's leg, for the untruth is so palpable to anyone who knows anything about the matter that the very brewers and wine and spirit merchants must laugh at the ease with which he has fallen in. The report makes it evident that he is a regulationist only, and hates like poison a scheme which gives New Zealand twelve districts where No-license will reign after July 1 next. It is a good thing that New Zealanders, with the experiment under their noses, can see better than the short sighted and out-of-date West Australian commissioner. Were the effects, as he says, the vote for No-license would recede instead of advance. The success of No-license is responsible for the huge growth of the vote every three years, which itself gives the lie to statements like Mr. Carson's.

The Victorian Dissolution.

The programme in connection with the Victorian Parliamentary dissolution ended on January 29, with the return by their constituents of Messrs. Murray and Watt, Premier and Treasurer, the former with a majority of 968 votes and the latter of 484.

It is significant that while those two gentlemen are the most radical of the Cabinet, the most favourably inclined to the Labour Party, they were the only two who were opposed. The reason, of course, was that the constituencies they represented were the only ones that the Party imagined it had a chance of winning in. The others, country constituencies with no Labour Party leanings, offered no possible hope. Any leaning towards the Labour Party, however, that the two candidates had may be considered at an end if their criticisms give any idea of their real feelings, for their vocabularies were exhausted in their efforts to show their disgust at being opposed. But these criticisms are of little weight, for the fight was an open one, and no one has a right to feel hurt at being opposed. It is only amusing, for the Cave of Adullam in the late Parliament was quite willing to use the Party to serve its own ends.

Tropical Diseases and Land Settlement.

Australia is gradually coming to realise that the northern part of her territory lies in the tropics, and that conditions vastly different to those of the south prevail there. The peculiarity of tropical diseases has rendered settlement somewhat difficult, for special treatments are necessary, and these the unhappy sufferers have been unable to get. If Northern Australia is to be settled by a white population, health conditions must be attended to. This is the first necessity, and if it be given, settlement will soon follow. In this connection excellent work is being done by Dr. Frodsham, Anglican Bishop of Queensland, who has been mainly responsible for a movement for the study of diseases peculiar to the tropics of Australia. During a visit to London he secured a vote from the committee of the Tropical Diseases Research Fund in connection with the Colonial Office. This serves a double purpose of high value, for it gives the institute a standing as well as substantial financial assistance. It would pay the Federal Government to establish a similar institute in the Northern Territory. That, however, would help to stimulate settlement, and to increase population, and the Labour Party does not take kindly to that idea.

The Capital Site.

The way in which South Africa is likely to settle the vexed question of a capital site for the Federation in making Cape Town the legislative capital and Pretoria the administrative capital, after the manner of Calcutta and Simla, is worth considering in connection with our own Federal capital. Our legislators know as little about the site they have selected that the Minister for Home Affairs is organising a camp in the district to give members an opportunity of inspecting it. The battle is really between Melbourne and Sydney. The rest of the Commonwealth does not care a pin where the capital eventually will be. How most would it do to make Melbourne the legislative and Sydney the administrative capital, or vice versa? With daily communication between the two places, a distance of 600 miles would constitute no bar to the transaction of business; the farce of establishing a centre in a new district would be avoided; the comfort of legislators would be better conserved, and both places would have a share of the pie. The scheme has many advantages and few disadvantages.

German-phobe.

On the unsupported statement of a Major Daniel, made from America, that the Germans were strongly fortifying Simpson's Haten, off the German New Guinea coast, a section of the Australian press has gone into wild hysterics over the German question. As against the unsupported statement, the German Consul makes another, emphatically denying it, and on a study of the two the verdict must unreservedly go to the latter. But the incident goes to show what an element of danger lies amongst us. To the attack made on the German people, the section in question saw locally war and red ruin stalking round the Australian coasts, and the Pacific in the grasp of the Germans. There was no hesitation about the assertions. Australia was the objective of the Germans, so it was boldly and definitely stated. It is almost wearisome protesting against this high-handed rubbish, this continual raising of bogeys. It helps no one. It is unfortunate that some of the most favoured spots in the Pacific were allowed to slip out of British hands, but it is not likely that there will be any change in possession without all the ruling powers represented there having a say in the matter. It is one to be supported that the screamings of a section of the press hurts the feelings of the German nation, but it most reflects on those sounds of Germans who have become naturalised subjects of the King, and who form one of the most law-abiding sections of the community.

Shipping Disasters.

At 12 o'clock on the night of the 12th February the Union steamer "Penguin" struck on a rock in Cook Straits in a stormy sea. In fifty minutes she sank. Out of a passenger and crew list of 166 it is estimated that 75 were drowned. Many travellers in this dangerous narrow swirling race of waters have spoken as the ship has plunged along in blank darkness, no lighthouse showing its friendly guiding beams, rough cliffs almost within leading distance on either side. Numbers of fine boats have gone down in the vicinity of the last disaster. Perhaps now the New Zealand Government will erect the much-needed lighthouse. What a toll of lives it takes to get ordinary necessary travelling safeguards built on land and sea. Two days later the cargo ship "Lady Mitchell" ran on the Victorian coast near Wilson's Promontory in thick weather, but fortunately her crew were saved.

LONDON, January 1, 1909.

The Earthquake in Sicily.

The close of the year has been marked by a great catastrophe in Italy. At twenty minutes past five on the morning of Monday, December 28th, a great convulsion of nature took place in the Straits of Messina, which was preceded by loud peals of thunder and flashes of lightning. The towns of Messina in Sicily, and Reggio on the opposite side of the Straits, in Calabria, felt the full force of the shock. Messina, a city with 150,000 population, was reduced to an expanse of shapeless ruins, from which not more than 25,000 of its inhabitants escaped alive. Reggio suffered a similar devastation. Immediately after the shock the sea receded for about 300 yards, pouring probably into a great fissure opened in the ocean bed, and directly after what is described as a great tidal wave about thirty feet high swept over the ruined city, drowning all those in the low-lying parts, and completing the work of devastation which the earthquake had begun. Fires broke out at once, as in San Francisco, which continued burning for days, notwithstanding the efforts to extinguish the conflagration. It is computed that over 200,000 persons lost their lives. Almost all the children were killed. The water supply was destroyed, and the surviving inhabitants were reduced, despite all the supplies which were hurried to the spot from all parts of the Mediterranean and Italy, to the last extremity of starvation in the midst of a scene of horror which recalls the lurid visions of Dante's "Inferno."

Scenes of Heroism and Horror.

There have been many great earthquakes since the world began to be inhabited by man, but in historic times no cataclysm is on record which resulted in the instantaneous destruction of so many human lives. The fate of those who died, however, was mercifully sudden compared with that of the mangled and maddened survivors who escaped both from the earthquake and the tidal wave. Despite every effort that was made by rescue parties, in which Russian and English sailors played a noble part; and despite the impetus given by the presence of the King and Queen of Italy, who worked unceasingly at the head of rescue parties, many thousands must have perished miserably by slow death under the ruins, from which extrication was impossible, while many others perished in flame. What was once the town of Messina became a vast charnel-house in which starving dogs sated their hunger upon unburied corpses, and to add to the horror vast flocks of crows and ravens arrived from Africa to batten on the dead. The Straits are said to be covered with the wreckage and floating bodies, but worse than ravens were the bands of ghouls. The prisoners who had escaped from the ruins of the gaol formed bands, broke into the remaining shops, and attempted to loot the remains of the ruins of the bank. They were frequently caught and shot while they were mutilating the dead to possess themselves of their rings. The hunger, thirst, and the stench of putrefying flesh combined to madden the helpless and hopeless survivors. Far inland the peasants, who also suffered, although not so severely, were almost in a state of frenzy. All the while, undaunted and unwearied, toiled unceasingly the brave contingents from the ships and from the mainland, who devoted themselves heroically to the work of rescue.

An Object Lesson in Sensationalism.

The startling nature of this catastrophe has appalled the imagination of the world. It was utterly unexpected, although those who believe in astrology will be interested to know that Zadkiel in his Almanac for 1908 predicted that there would be earthquakes in Italy in the last week

of the Old Year; but not even the voice of the stars warned the astrologer of the appalling extent of the disaster which has overwhelmed the dwellers on the Straits of Messina. The Lord Mayor at once opened a relief fund, and millions of dollars have been subscribed from the United States of America. While welcoming such evidence as to the universal kinship of the human race, it is interesting to observe how much more readily the heart expands and the purse-strings relax when human suffering is presented in a sensational shape. The sufferings of the Sicilians are terrible no doubt, but estimated calmly by the extent of those who suffered it is obvious that they owe the potency of their appeal entirely to the sensational and dramatic way in which they have been cinematographed before the eyes of the human race. For the 200,000 who are dead nothing can be done, save to bury such portions of their remains as have escaped the fangs of the dogs and the beaks of the ravens. The sufferings of the survivors are no doubt acute to the verge of torture, but the number of sufferers is comparatively few. Contrast, for instance, the calm equanimity with which the civilised world heard of the extinction of seven millions of human beings in the Soudan as the result of the Madhi's rebellion and British bungling, with the feverish anxiety displayed to send succour to the Sicilians. The Soudan was not under the eye of the Press, that great camera of civilisation. The seven millions died unheeded, suffering dumbly in the far Soudan, whereas the few scores of thousands who are wandering distracted, bereaved, and starving on the mainland and in Sicily can make their moans audible in every newspaper in the world. It is not the suffering which is depicted, but its sensationalism which has produced so widespread and generous an outburst of liberality.

Earthquakes and Conquerors.

An earthquake is like the old Devil with horns, hoofs, and sulphurous smell, and all the fires of hell behind him, a vigorous and sensational embodiment of the wrath of God. Nowadays we have the Devil in dilution, as much more deadly than the mediæval Satan as the depopulation of the Soudan was more terrible than the destruction of Messina; but the disappearance of the startling pictorial sensational embodiment of the principle of evil leaves us comparatively indifferent in the presence of greater evils which flow from the follies, vices, and crimes of mankind. A single false step in India, a hasty rifle shot in the Balkan Peninsula, might precipitate upon mankind a destruction of life and property compared with which that caused by the earthquake would appear but the merest bagatelle, but the sensational element being absent, we confront those dangers almost with apathy. Certain it is that the worst that earthquakes have ever done in the destruction of life when they are all added together in one huge aggregate since human records began, only amount to a mere fraction of the slaughter achieved by such a human earthquake as Genghis Khan, or even the much more modern Zulu Napoleon, Chaka, in South Africa.

The Destruction of Property.

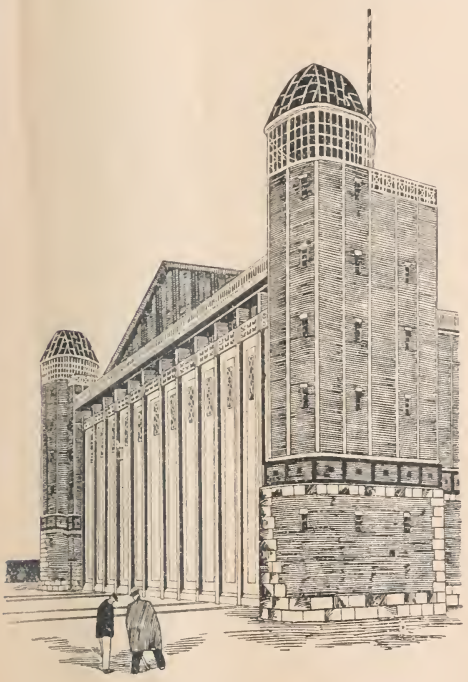
The estimates published in the papers place the value of the property destroyed at £40,000,000, or little more than half what the South African War cost Great Britain. Nature at her worst is less fatal to the work of man than man at his worst is to the accumulated product of his labour and his genius. The figure of £40,000,000 given as the damage done in a small not densely-populated area suggests the reflection, what would be the damage if a similar earthquake inflicted similar ruin upon London, Paris, or New York? We realise so little the immensity of the capital value of what we see every day, that it takes a fire or an earthquake to open our eyes even to a sense of the cash value of things.

The Coming Airquake.

The Sicilian earthquake was strictly localised. Imagine a similar earthquake let loose to make the tour of the world, with no other guide but the caprice, the passions, or the fears of men, and you will then be able to form some conception of the shock that is awaiting our complex civilisation by the coming of the airship. It will be a veritable airquake beneath which civilisation itself may perish unless the instinct of self-preservation leads the rulers of the nations to give executive authority to an international tribunal, authorising it to employ all the forces of all the nations to crush any nation which persists in settling its disputes by war instead of by law. The French Government has already given notice of its intention to summon an International Conference for the regulation of the navigation of the air. Something much more than this is necessary. We need a new Hague Conference to establish the organisation of the International High Court, and to provide such a Court with authority to use the armed forces of the world to crush any recalcitrant Power which refuses to respect its verdict.

Why the Airship will bring Peace.

Mr. Wilbur Wright, who was the hero of the hardy navigators of the air in 1908, as I expect M. Boletoff will be in 1909, broke all records last month by flying his heavier than air machine in the air for two hours and forty minutes at a stretch, during which he covered a course of ninety-three miles. Mr. Wright's machine is but the foreshadowing of other machines, swifter, more powerful,



Plan of the proposed Garage for Zeppelin Airships.

So convinced is Germany that the aëroplane and the dirigible balloon are to be used in wartime that she has planned a garage to be devoted to Zeppelin airships only. It is proposed to erect this building at Friedrichshof.

and capable of much greater endurance. The nightmare of the future will be the sudden awakening of some great capital or arsenal at midnight by a rain of high explosives from the high heavens, which, with the aid of some modern substitute for Greek fire, will reduce Paris, Berlin, or London to a heap of smoking ruins before breakfast. Instead of the occasional possible earthquake from below, we shall have to face a perpetual possibility of a series of not less terrible airquakes from above. An attempt will be made to forbid the use of the new engines in war. It will fail, for no nation will trust the other not to provide itself in secret with an aërial navy. There are only two alternatives—an international agreement to treat any nation that appeals to war as a pirate and enemy of the human race, or apathetic acquiescence in the destruction of modern civilisation.

Baron D'Aehrenthal on the Airship.

It is just two years ago since Baron D'Aehrenthal told me that he entirely agreed with me in believing that the coming of the airship would render war, as it is known at present, absolutely impossible. Baron D'Aehrenthal was not so conspicuous a figure in European politics as he is to-day. Hence it is possible more attention may be paid to his words in 1910 than in 1908. "If I were a peace apostle," said Baron D'Aehrenthal to me, "I would go round Europe urging every Parliament to make liberal grants for the construction of airships, for when the airship comes, everything will go." "Everything" had previously been referred to as the old system of States with fortress-guarded frontiers, great navies, and the like. The air has no frontiers. Tariff Reform will become something more than a quack prescription when all goods save those in bulk, like coal and corn and timber, can be delivered anywhere duty free, despite the vain protests of Custom-house officers and coastguards. There is no revolution in the memory of man that promises to be so far-reaching, so catastrophic, as the conquest of the air. It will either blow up our war system or it will destroy civilisation. It is for our rulers in their wisdom to guide it to the former alternative, or we shall drift to the latter.

The Arming of Britain.

The consequence of the coming of the airship is brought unpleasantly home to us by the increased urgency which it has created for the filling up the ranks of our territorial army. Lord Rosebery last month declared himself in favour of the Swiss system of universal military service. But after the coming of the airship not even the rigorous German system would restore the condition of security which we now enjoy. Sir Hiram Maxim went off on a false scent when he pictured the invasion in force by the air. He was promptly corrected by M. Boletoff. What is to be dreaded is the destruction of the highly concentrated resources of civilisation, such as *Dreadnoughts*, arsenals, capitals and viaducts, all of which are

open to attack from above. We are face to face with the possible destruction of all our battleships, as it were, by thunderbolts, and then, with our coasts open to the invader, the case for conscription would be complete. The concentration of capital, labour, inventive genius, and fighting force in a *Dreadnought* or in a great arsenal is to the aeroplanist the fulfilment of the old Roman's desire that all his enemies had but one neck which he could sever at a blow. The fissiparous tendency of mankind will receive a tremendous impulse after the airquake. The era of cast-iron empires is indeed nearing its end.

The Snow Storm.

It was a curious coincidence that, when the Sicilians were smitten by an earthquake, and the ruins of Messina were consumed by fire, in these Northern climes we were buried under a fall of snow heavier than any that has been known for many years. Christmas was bright and sunny, but before the Old Year passed out the whole country had been covered by a shroud of snow. Guests in country houses were snowed up, trains were hopelessly engulfed in snow drifts from which starving passengers were dug out with difficulty after shivering for four-and-twenty hours in an ice-cold grave. Fortunately the blizzard did not last. The snow melted almost as rapidly as it came. The Old Year passed in London in the midst of fog and slush. If we had not exactly an old fashioned Christmas, we had at least a taste of what was supposed to be distinctly Christmas weather, and on the whole did not find it very well adapted to the complexity of our modern civilisation.

First Payment of Old-Age Pensions.

January 1st was memorable as the day that witnessed the first payment of the weekly pension of five shillings which Parliament voted last year should be given to all British-born subjects who have kept themselves outside the workhouse, the lunatic asylum, and the gaol for seventy years, and have not saved enough to have an income of £31 10s. per annum. About half a million old folks received their pension in England and Ireland on New Year's Day, in Scotland on January 2nd. The number of pensioners in Ireland is more than three times the percentage in Scotland, and four times that in England and Wales. The annual cost of this scheme is £7,000,000, less than the annual interest on the sum spent by the late Government in devastating the South African Republics. Many pathetic scenes were witnessed at the post offices where this great army of old folks, often ailing, deaf, rheumatic, assembled to draw their pensions. Twelve pensioners are reported to have died from excitement. From Mr. Burns downwards to the village postmaster everyone seems to have worked with a will to facilitate the distribution of the pensions, and the machinery seems to have moved with scarcely a hitch.

No Compromise on the Education Question.

The attempt to arrange an Educational settlement failed, as was expected. Mr. Runciman and Mr. Asquith did their best to come to terms with the Archbishop. To revert to a homely illustration, the two parties met to discuss the buying of the pig—they agreed that the pig should be bought and sold, and after agreeing as to the driving it home to its new sty, they adjourned to the public-house to celebrate the bargain. But just as they were drinking each other's healths they remembered they had not agreed as to the price of the pig, and the bargain was off. By the Education compromise free entry for all the sects into all the schools twice a week for teaching all their dogmas was to be purchased by liberty to be given to the Church to contract their schools out of the national system. But while the Government meant this liberty to be used only in rare instances, where the population was all Anglican or Catholic, the Church party wanted it to become the rule. The *crux* came over the question of the annual grant per scholar. The Government offered 50s. per head. The Church stood out for a few shillings more. As they could not agree, and as the Church had the House of Lords at its back, the Government dropped the Bill.

The House of Lords Regnant.

Mr. Lloyd George made a witty speech at Liverpool last month in which he declared that the nation would not stand the rule of "King Lansdowne and his consort." But it is no use blinking facts. The country is standing it, and shows at present no disposition to resent it. *Punch's* inimitable cartoon, in which Mr. Asquith threatens the Peers that if they insult him six times more he will no longer be able to restrain the fury of his friend John Bull, who, so far from being furious, is dozing peacefully in his chair, is unfortunately but too true a picture of the situation. The country ought to be dancing mad with the unprecedented assumption by the Peers of the supreme legislative authority. It is an aristocratic usurpation, but the Democracy bears it quite patiently. Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George make militant speeches, but that is all. Whether we like it or not, the unreformed House of Lords, which has become to all intents and purposes the Man Friday of the Conservative Caucus, is now making its way to a

The Real Thing in Switzerland.

A Rollicking Time in London.

TOBOGGANING IN THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

By permission of the proprietors of "Punch."

Boiling over with Apathy.

PRIME MINISTER: "I could do six times more, and I won't be answerable for myself! And Heaven knows what would happen if I appealed to my friend here, who already has great difficulty in controlling his indignation."

position like that occupied by the Senate in the United States, where the House of Representatives has long been completely eclipsed by the Second Chamber. How long the acquiescence of the people will last no one can predict, but for the present in all matters but those of finance the House of Lords is supreme.

The Financial Difficulty

It so happens that it is precisely in the domain where the House of Commons is supreme that the Government is threatened with its greatest danger. The revenue has fallen off owing to the slackness of trade. Old-Age Pensions will cost £7,000,000. There is certain to be an increase in the Navy Estimates unless we are to abandon the two-to-one German standard—which means suicide—and there are certain to be increases in other departments. Mr. Lloyd George will have to face an estimated deficit of anything between £10,000,000 and £15,000,000. The first demand to be invaded will be the Sinking Fund, which is abnormally large. How to meet the balance, that is the question. The extra expenditure on keeping up the two-to-one standard might be met here as in Germany by a loan, but that is only to defer the evil day. This extremity may, however, be the Exchequer's opportunity. On another page I set out what seems to be the only practical plan that can be conceived that will at once fill the Exchequer and enable the Government to emancipate itself from the Trade. The purchase outright of the vested interests in the supply of intoxicants in order to vest the monopoly in the hands of the nation would settle the Licensing question, secure Temperance Reform, take the Trade out of politics, and fill the Exchequer. Personally Mr. Lloyd George has always been in favour of this solution. Mr. Balfour has no objection to it in principle. The national need is acute. Why should it not be done?

The Work of Last Session.

Parliament was prorogued on December 21st. There was a long Speech from the Throne, in which a tributary tear was shed over the Licensing and Education Bills, and the most was made of the legislative measures that received the Royal assent. First and foremost there is the Old-Age Pensions Bill. Then come the Port of London Bill, the Children's Charter, and the Eight Hours for Miners, which the House of Lords, by knocking off the time spent in going up and in going to the shaft, has converted into an eight and a half hours Bill. There is also the Irish University Bill, which it is hoped will satisfy the insatiable. On the whole the record is not bad. It would have been better if the House of Lords had not been in existence. But the

Westminster Gazette.

Another Eggspedition.

THE GREAT LANDLORD-BIRD: "It's no use coming here, Mr. Lloyd George; I'm EXTINCT!"

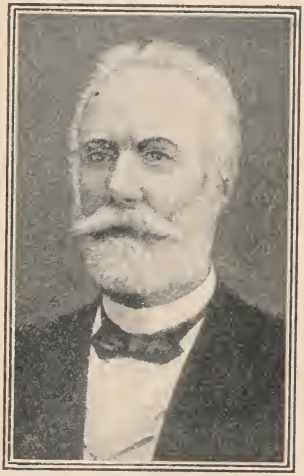
reform of the procedure of the House of Commons—upon which Mr. Jowett has a good deal to say in the *National Review*—is almost as pressing a question as the abolition of the Veto of the Peers.

Electoral Reform.

A small but capable Royal Commission has been appointed to examine into and report upon the methods adopted in different countries to secure a full and fair representation of the people. If the Commission were to report faithfully upon how the various systems actually work, or are worked, instead of confining themselves solely to considering the provisions on paper, we should have a very piquant Blue-book. A full and particular account of how universal suffrage works in the Southern States of America, an explanation of how South American general elections are conducted, or, to come nearer home, an account of how the Ministries prepare the elections in Spain and Bulgaria, would be illuminating. The points which are likely to absorb the attention of the Commissioners are the various methods of securing proportional representation, the use of the Referendum, and woman's suffrage. On the latter subject Mr. Lloyd George told the Woman's Liberal Federation in the Albert Hall—after a battle royal with the Suffragettes—that two-thirds of the Cabinet and the majority of the Liberal Party were in favour of woman's suffrage "on democratic lines." This, being interpreted, means that every married woman is to be allowed to share the electoral rights of her husband, and that no manless woman possessing the necessary qualifications shall be refused the vote because of her sex. At the close of the present Parliament he promised that if the majority inserted a clause in favour of woman's suffrage in the Electoral Reform Bill, "from that moment it would be part and parcel of a measure for which the Government would be responsible." This is an advance which we owe to the militant Suffragists, whose leader, Mrs. Pankhurst, was released from Holloway by Mr. Herbert Gladstone before Christmas. To treat as ordinary criminals unconvicted political prisoners, if they are women who are merely incarcerated because they will not enter into recognisances to refrain from further political agitation, when men, even if convicted of political offences, are treated as first-class misdemeanants, is a practical object-lesson in the comparative values of Chivalry and the Vote.

THREE OF THE NOBEL PRIZE-WINNERS.

Professor Paul Ehrlich, Frankfort.
Prize for Medicine and Physiology.



M. Fredrik Bajer, Denmark.

M. K. P. Arnoldson, Sweden.
These two divide the prize for Peace.

The Nobel Prizes.

The Nobel Prize for Peace last year was divided between Mr. F. Bajer, the well-known Danish pacificist, and Mr. Arnoldson, of Sweden. It was time that the Scandinavians had

their turn. The Prize has now gone to Switzerland (2), France, Britain, the United States, and Italy. This year it is to be hoped it will go to Russia. The claims of M. Martens have been overlooked too long. Of the other Prizes only one, that for Chemistry, goes to an English-speaking man. Professor Ernest Rutherford, a New Zealand colonist, now at Manchester University.

Tariff Reform in America.

The world has been edified lately by the spectacle of Mr. Andrew Carnegie taking the stand before the Tariff Reform Committee at Washington, and testifying under cross-examination for hours on end in favour of a reduction of the import duties imposed by the McKinley Tariff, especially those on iron and steel. Mr. Carnegie is right. The idea that the iron and steel industries of the United States need to be bolstered up by exorbitant duties is one of the crying absurdities of the day. "Infant industries" forsooth; they are the very Goliaths of the manufacturing world. Mr. Taft is said to be resolute in favour of a substantial reduction of the tariff.

What must be Done on the Congo.

A very important manifesto on the subject of the Government of the Congo Free State was published last month. It was signed by everybody who is of any account in the religious and philanthropic world in Great Britain. Its object was to affirm in the strongest possible manner that legislative action must be taken to restore to the native races their communal rights in the land, with power to trade freely in the produce of the soil-rights destroyed by the edicts of 1891-2, when all the land and all the natural produce of the soil were appropriated by the governing power. If this is not done Belgium will have to prepare herself for Anglo-American action, leading up to an International Conference. But I hope the Belgians will be wise in time.

The Trial of Dinizulu.

The trial of Dinizulu has been dragging on all last month. So far as the evidence has reached this country it seems too ridiculous to discuss. For instance, it is gravely charged against Dinizulu that he drilled and armed a bodyguard of thirty men!—a mighty host, indeed, with which to make war on the British Empire. Another witness asserted that if white troops entered Dinizulu's kraal he believed Dinizulu would have attacked them! Uninvited guests do not usually receive a friendly welcome. It is well that Miss Colenso is in the Court, and that Dinizulu is defended by counsel.

The Kaiser in Retreat.

The Kaiser crisis in Germany has had a somewhat unexpected result. The Kaiser is in retreat. Strange stories are circulated as to the extent to which the recent turmoil over his ill-starred interview has affected his health. Certain it is that, whether or not he is ill, the Kaiser appears to have decided that it would be better for everyone if he effaced himself for a period.

The Trial of Dinizulu at Greytown, Natal.

Reading from left to right we have the Hon. W. P. Schreiner (leading counsel), then Eugene Dison (assistant), Dinizulu himself, K.C. Samuelson (assistant), and Miss Colenso.

German and American Penny Postage.

The Kaiser, even when going into retreat, has given the world a remarkable instance of his wisdom and his power by securing the extension to Germany of the advantage of penny postage with the United States. Mr. Henniker Heaton, who knows everything about international postage, declares that this wise and beneficent reform was due entirely to the Kaiser's initiative. We

heartily rejoice that a boon which was first secured for the English-speaking world should have been extended to our German kinsfolk. Of course, as Mr. Henniker Heaton was prompt to point out, there still remains the absurdity of charging 2½d. for carrying letters from Bremen to Plymouth, when the same ship carries it all the way to New York for a penny. The movement in favour of international penny postage has, therefore, received a great impetus from the Kaiser's action.

The Eastern Question.

M. Isvoltzky's long expected speech on Russia's policy in the Balkans was delivered in the Duma upon our Christmas Day. It was an able apologia for his policy, the whole gist of which lay in one sentence. M. Isvoltzky stated that it was impossible for him to have taken the line of uncompromising opposition to the annexation of Bosnia and the Herzegovina because his hands were tied by secret understandings or agreements with Austria entered into with his predecessors, which practically made Russia a consenting party to the conversion of occupation into annexation. As he did not enlighten us as to what these secret agreements were, it is impossible to discuss whether or not he is right in their interpretation. They do not, however, emancipate Austria from the obligation of seeking European sanction for the altered status of the two provinces, and it may be possible, when the Conference assembles, for Russia to unite with the other Powers in stipulating that the future government of the Provinces shall be (1) approved by their inhabitants, and (2) be consistent with a large measure of local autonomy. Meantime, Austria has proposed, and the other Powers have agreed, that direct diplomatic negotiations should take place with a view to the establishment of a preliminary agreement as to the scope of the Conference.

The Turkish Boycott.

Another month has passed, and still the Turkish boycott of Austrian goods continues, to the no small indignation of the merchants and manufacturers who find the Turkish market virtually closed. The Austrian-Hungarian Government fumes and threatens and talks of claiming compensation, which is an absurdity. You cannot mulct a Government because its subjects enter into a self-denying ordinance to refrain from purchasing any description of foreign goods. The notion circulated by the Vienna newspapers that the boycott was a malevolent device of British exporters for the purpose of cutting out their Austrian competitors is a myth. I wish I could believe that British merchants in the Near East were sufficiently smart to take advantage of the situation created by the boycott. As for originating it, such a notion never crossed their stolid, steady-going brains. The efficacy of the boycott to put pressure upon an aggressive treaty-breaking Power is universally admitted. Baron D'Aehrenthal left that possibility out of his calculations, but it has been more potent than all the protests of all the Foreign Offices to convince him that the way of transgressors is hard. If the Christian Church in all its branches would but agree to organise a trade boycott of all the goods of any Power which refused arbitration, the dawn of an era of peace would be perceptibly nearer.

The Attitude of Italy.

There is nothing that is regarded with such irritation and dismay in Berlin and Vienna as the manifest tokens of the disposition of the Italian Government and the Italian people to resent the forward movement of the Austrians in the Balkans. Signor Tittoni at first underestimated the national feeling, and spoke and acted as if the Triple Alliance bound Italy to endorse the policy of Baron D'Aehrenthal. But a debate in Parliament warned him that this was dangerous ground. So the adroit Italian promptly ranged himself with the majority of the signatories of the Berlin Treaty and took great credit to himself for having negotiated a *rapprochement* with Russia. The Queen of Italy, it should never be forgotten, is a Montenegrin princess, and Italians can never contemplate with equanimity the extension of Austrian influence in Albania. Here again England is blamed. But nothing could have been more innocent or aboveboard than Sir Edward Grey's policy. He has from the first taken his stand on the firm ground of international law and the sanctity of treaties. It is not his fault if all the rest of Europe, save only Germany, has rallied to his side.

The Opening of the Turkish Parliament.

Despite Lord Morley's somewhat disparaging remarks concerning Parliamentarism in Asiatic lands, the opening of the Turkish Parliament has been hailed with enthusiasm throughout the world. Ahmed Riza, a Young Turk of Positivist leanings, has been elected President of the Chamber. Abdul Hamid has so far justified King Edward's application of the doctrine of "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," for he not only opened the Parliament in person, but attended a banquet at which he made a speech pledging himself to a faithful maintenance of the Constitution. It is, of course, too early to forecast the probable course

The Excitement at the Opening of the Turkish Parliament.
(Note the women on the wall of the Mosque of St. Sophia.)

of events. But Constitutionalism, so far, has been a trump card for Turkey. It has not alienated a single friend, and it has converted the Sultan's bitterest foes into his warmest supporters. So fully and loyally have the old anti-Turks welcomed the returning prodigal, that even Professor Vambery cannot resist the suspicion that something sinister lurks behind their exuberant enthusiasm. It is even suggested that we engineered the revolution in order to defeat German policy in Constantinople. But if the Germans choose to support the new *régime* they will have two trump cards in their hand, whereas we have only one. If the Young Turks fail to continue to work miracles, the Germans have always their old friendship with Abdul Hamid to fall back upon. Whereas if the revolution founders English influence will disappear. What England and Germany ought to do is to vie with each other as to which will be the best friend of the new *régime*.

The Situation in Persia.

If we do not take care we shall have an Anglo-Russian dual control established over Persia as complete as the old Anglo-French condominium in Egypt. The Shah appears to be quite unable to establish order. The two Governments, who appear to be like the Zangiss—two minds with but a single thought—are lecturing him severely and if he should continue recalcitrant, the reins of Government will inevitably pass into other hands. In some quarters the Shah's Cossack general is regarded as a menacing hint of divided counsels in Russia. But nothing can be closer than the *entente* between St. Petersburg and London. It is to be hoped that the appointment of M. Poklovetsky, late Councillor at the Russian Embassy in London, to the post at Teheran, vacated by M. Hartwig, may tend to extend this close understanding from the capitals to the frontiers. In England those conversant with the criminal classes assert that it usually takes a year or two before they discover that a new law has been passed. Not until some of them have served sentences under the new statute and regained their liberty do the criminal classes learn that a change has been made. So it is on the frontiers. It takes a year or two before Russian and British officials realise that instead of being rivals they are allies.

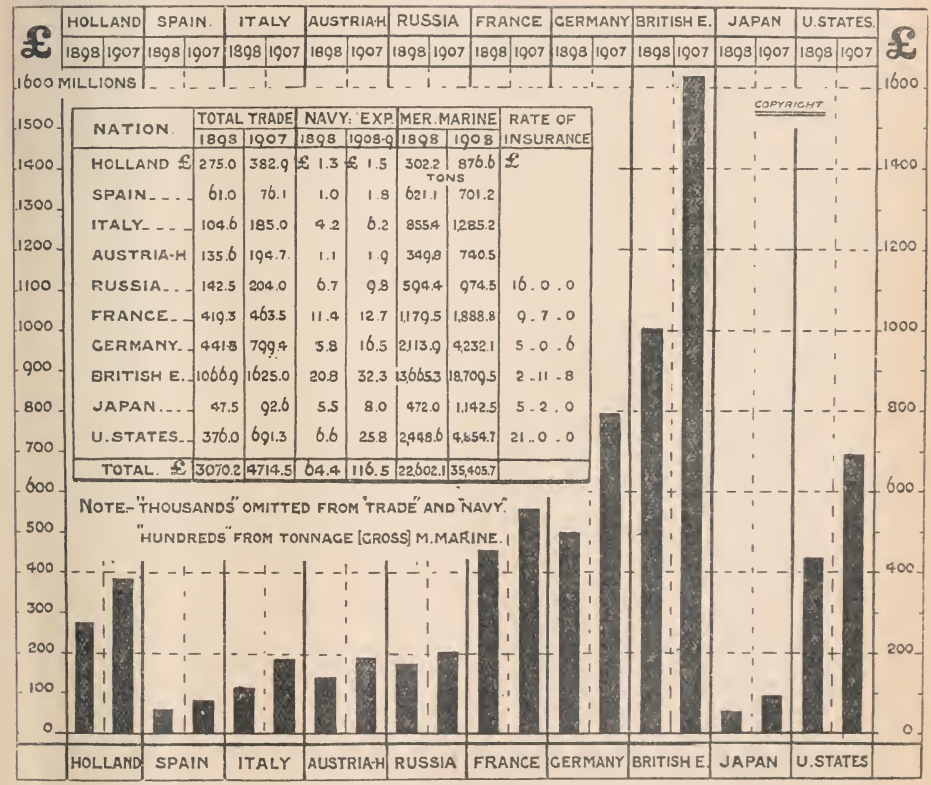
The New Era in India.

Lord Morley's Reform Bill for India is noticed elsewhere. Here it is sufficient to say that the changes he proposes to introduce have been hailed with enthusiasm in India, not

merely by loyal and public-spirited men like the Maharajah of Darbhanga, who headed the deputation to Lord Minto, but equally by all the extremists who have not yet been locked up. The Indian National Congress was quite enthusiastic, and although this may be said to be a packed assembly, it was radical enough in its resolutions. Nevertheless it heartily welcomed Lord Morley's scheme, to which, strange to say, the Anglo-Indian papers also gave a friendly reception.

The Naval Conference.

The International Naval Conference has adjourned over the Christmas holidays. Its proceedings are secret, and no one seems to think it worth while to find out what decisions are likely to be arrived at. It is a curious illustration of the apparent indifference of the public to matters which vitally affect its welfare. The British Empire, as Admiral Fisher says, floats upon the British Navy, and the laws of naval warfare are of even more importance to the safety of the nation than the hours of closing of public-houses. The accompanying diagram illustrates in an effective and simple fashion the relative importance of the shipping and trade of the nations represented. There are only eight of them, but they own 85 per cent. of the shipping of the world.



The accompanying diagram shows pictorially the enormous increase in ten years in the commerce of each of the ten nations represented at the International Conference on Maritime Warfare now sitting in London; the augmentation in Naval Expenditure to protect that commerce; the gross tonnage of Mercantile Marine, together with the rate of Insurance or Naval Expenditure for each ton of the Mercantile Shipping. The vastness of the commercial interests of the nations included in the chart may be gauged from the fact that out of the total of 41,000,000 tons of the Mercantile Marine of the world no less than 35,000,000 tons are owned in the aggregate by the countries specified, or 85 per cent.

THE EARL OF MINTO AND THE MAHARAJAH OF JODHPUR.

The Maharajah is the ruler of the great Rajput State founded by the Rajah Jodha in 1459.

CHARACTER SKETCHES.

THE HEROES OF THE NEW ERA IN INDIA.

LAST month, amid universal applause, Lord Morley inaugurated a new era in India by proclaiming his intention to extend and strengthen the principle of local self-government. After his wont, Lord Morley stubbornly refused to condescend to the arts of the demagogue—arts which are useful and necessary when rightly employed—and he somewhat marred the effect of his declaration in favour of the immediate increase of the representation of the native element on the Legislative Councils by an altogether unnecessary expression of opinion on the subject of parliamentary government in Asiatic countries. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof, and Lord Morley might well have spared us speculations as to what he might or might not do if his Ministerial existence were prolonged for another half-century.

The important thing is that the immediate result of the promise of his reforms has been a chorus of approval arising alike from the Anglo-Indian press and the representatives of the extremists among the natives. Excepting for the woe that is pronounced upon those of whom all men speak well, Lord Morley might well congratulate himself upon the reception of his Reform Bill. It is somewhat difficult to explain to the stay-at-home public the full significance of the changes to be introduced. Here is a summary, in Lord Morley's own words, of the powers which he intends to take by legislation this year, in order to carry out his policy of reform :—

Photograph by] [*R. Haines.*

Lord Morley, the Reformer of India.

This is the first power we shall come to Parliament for. At present the *maximum* and *minimum* number of Legislative Councils are fixed by statute. We shall come to Parliament to authorise an increase in the numbers of those Councils, both the Viceroy's Council and the Provincial Councils. Second. The members are now nominated by the head of the Government, either the Viceroy or the Lieutenant-Governor. No election takes place in the strict sense of the term. The nearest approach to it is the nomination by the Viceroy upon the recommendation of a majority of voters of certain public bodies. We do not propose to ask Parliament to abolish nomination. We do propose to ask Parliament, in a very definite way, to introduce election working alongside nomination with a view to the aim admitted in all previous schemes, including that of the noble marquis opposite—the due representation of the different classes of the community. Third. The Indian Councils Act of 1892 forbids—and this is no doubt a very important prohibition—either resolutions or divisions of the Council in financial discussions. We shall ask Parliament to repeal this prohibition. Fourth. We shall propose to invest Legislative Councils with power to discuss matters of public and general importance, and to pass recommendations or resolutions to the Government. The Government will deal with them as carefully, or as carelessly, as they think fit—just as the Government do here. Fifth. To extend the power that at present exists to appoint a member of the Council to preside. Sixth. Bombay and Madras have now Executive Councils, numbering two. I propose to ask Parliament to double this number. Seventh. The Lieutenant-Governors have no Executive Council. We shall ask Parliament to sanction the creation of such councils, consisting of not more than two members, and to define the power of the Lieutenant-Governor to overrule his council. These proposals have been well thought out and they are accepted by the Governor-General.

How comes it about that Lord Morley has brought in so far-reaching a programme of reforms, none of which figured in the original programme of the present Administration? Lord Morley told us :—

I have talked with experts of all kinds concerning reforms. I admit that some have shaken their heads, they did not like reforms very much ; but when I have asked, "Shall we stand still, then?" there is not one of those experienced men who has not said, "That is quite impossible. Whatever else we do, we cannot stand still."

What is it that has compelled these conservative administrators unanimously to arrive at this conclusion? How is it that everybody is convinced that something must be done?

The answer is simple and obvious. It is no sudden outpouring of Pentecostal grace upon the Indian Civil Service. The conviction that is now resulting in action is due to the agitators who are being imprisoned, exiled, and executed by their pupils. Does anyone imagine that the supremely self-satisfied bureaucracy of the Indian Civil Service would ever of its own motion have opened this new chapter in Indian reform? Those who can answer that question in the affirmative little know the nature of bureaucracies. Officialism "in

self-adoring pride securely mailed" never discovers that reforms are necessary by the internal workings of its own conscience. As the Apostle said of old that the law was the schoolmaster to lead us to Christ, so it may be said without irreverence that the agitators were the teachers who led Lord Minto and Lord Morley to seek salvation in a policy of reform.

It may be and often is necessary for the pupils to imprison their tutors when the latter go too far in their impositions, but they must ever do it as if they loved them. If Mr. Gladstone never could quite bring himself to express his gratitude to Mr. Parnell when he employed the resources of civilisation in locking him up in prison, we need not wonder that Lord Morley refrained from paying his debt to Tilak and his colleagues when he introduced his Reform Bill. Those of us who are in a position of greater freedom and less responsibility should the more feel it incumbent upon us to do homage to the real heroes of the new era in India, and we should do so all the more whole-heartedly because for the moment the inexorable exigencies of maintaining law and order in India have necessitated the temporary removal of these useful and public-spirited pioneers from the scene of their political activity.

Who are these agitators? They are men whose bodies were born in India, but they have one and all been born again in the quickening atmosphere of British political ideas. Bengal, Bombay, or the Punjaub may call them sons, but the *Alma Mater* of most of them is the University of Oxford. That we have educated and inspired such men is a greater glory to our race than all the victories in all our Afghan wars. I am therefore glad to be able to publish a sketch of "The Men Behind the Unrest in India," which has been sent me by Saint Nihal Singh, author of "Essays on India" and "Messages of Uplift for India," special writer for *Modern Review*, Calcutta; *Indian World*, Calcutta; *Hindostan Review*, Allahabad; *Azad*, Lahore; *Indian Review*, Madras; *Indian Ladies' Magazine*, Royapetta, etc.

Saint Nihal Singh is one of the many cultivated natives of India who are studying the latest evolution of the democratic principles of the West in the great cities of the American Republic. I have of late had occasion to quote, and always to quote with praise, from the articles which he has from time to time contributed to the periodical literature of India and the United States. I regret that exigencies of space render it impossible for me to print the second part of his article, which deals with Dadabhoi Naoroji, India's Grand Old Man, who "probably was responsible for the present awakening in India more than any one person"; Mr. Gokhale, "India's Mediator"; Dr. Rash Behary Ghose, "India's balance-wheel," and the Gaekwar of Baroda, "the practical politician." All these men are more or less known to the British public. They are among the sober, sane, moderate, practical men whose praises are in all men's mouths. I devote my space to what Saint Nihal Singh has to tell us about the more extreme men, around whose brows may already be discerned the aureole of martyrdom. So without more preface here is Saint Nihal Singh's article.

THE MEN BEHIND THE UNREST IN INDIA.

By SAINT NIHAL SINGH.

BEHIND the political and social unrest that has lately been attracting the attention of the world to India stand a few personalities. These men are greater than the greatest events that are happening in Hindostan, for the discontent has in a measure been engendered and nurtured by them with the object of destroying the present form of government and substituting in its stead an administration based on democratic lines and manned by the natives of the land.

The unrest in India dates from the day when the Indian changed his attitude towards youth. For a cycle of years previously the worth of a person had been measured by the number of white hairs on his head, and age was synonymous with veneration. The spirit of our times upset this state of affairs, and during the last two generations all movements for the social and political betterment of India have been conceived, initiated, and carried through by comparatively young men. Broadly speaking, the men whose life-stories constitute the history of Hindostan in transition were born around the year of the Sepoy Mutiny—1857; and these leaders, with their younger aids, are the men that count in India to-day.

I.—TILAK: INDIA'S ARCH-EXTREMIST.

On the horizon of Hindostan the personality of Bal Gangadhar Tilak looms the largest at this moment. He has recently been exiled from India and is held in captivity in Burma. Mr. Tilak is the owner, editor and publisher of the *Kesari*—the lion—a native weekly newspaper, which has the largest circulation of all newspapers in Hindostan; and the *Marhatta*, another weekly, published in English. His present sentence is due to the fact that he published articles in his papers which the English Government construed to be expressions of sympathy for the bomb-throwers and encouragement of further bomb-throwing.

Mr. Tilak has been identified with the native agitation for Home Rule for India for many years. He was born on July 23rd, 1855, and has upheld the banner of political reform since he was a young man. When he was only twenty-four years of age he was

one of the two men who started the Poona New English School in the interests of poor Indian students. In 1884 Mr. Tilak and the same two compatriots established the Deccan Educational Society, and in 1885 the same men founded the famous Fergusson College, in which Mr. Tilak served as Professor of Mathematics and Science until 1890. He has appealed to both the educated and uneducated elements of society. His interest in the education of the poor won him the regard of the lowly; while his abilities as a mathematician, as a Sanskritist and Vedic scholar, and his labours as a lawyer of great repute, have attracted the attention of the intellectual classes of Hindostan. In recognition of his erudition he was elected to the membership of the Bombay Legislative Council and was given a Fellowship of the University of Bombay. He is eminently a self-made man, as his father died when he was sixteen years old, and the only help the young man had in making his way in the world was given by his uncle. This early struggle for an education fitted him to become the champion of the masses.

Probably the most spectacular achievement of Mr. Tilak's life occurred when he was responsible for the breaking up of the Indian National Congress —India's pseudo-parliament—in 1907, when it met at Surat. Led by him, the platform was "rushed" by the Extremists to prevent the election of Dr. Rash Behary Ghose, a Moderate, for President of the Congress. Chairs and tables were smashed in the *mêlée* that followed Mr. Tilak's appearance upon the platform, and the broken pieces were used as clubs in the free-for-all fight that followed. Angered Moderates even tore the shoes from their feet and hurled them at the Extremist leader who had stirred up such a hornet's nest of wrath. The result of it all was that Congress adjourned without electing a President or accomplishing any work.

Public opinion in India was about evenly divided as to Mr. Tilak's guilt in this connection. Some Indians heaped abuse on him; others crowned him with the laurels of the conqueror. One and all, however, united in common cause when Mr. Tilak was recently arrested. At once he became a martyr in the eyes of his countrymen, and a united protest was made against his conviction. A fund is being raised to care for his wife and maintain his papers while he serves his term of transportation, and every effort is being put forth to have his sentence remitted.

This is Mr. Tilak's third gaol experience. Something like a quarter of a century ago he was convicted for criticising the Prime Minister of a Native State in his papers. Again in 1897 he was convicted on account of some seditious verses that appeared in *Kesari*, and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment, six of which the Government remitted because of the antagonistic feeling against England which his incarceration stirred up in the hearts of the Indians. While in gaol at that time Mr. Tilak wrote two remarkable books; "Orion," and "The Arctic Home in the Vedas," which are considered classics by Orientalists the world over.

In politics Mr. Tilak is no Lazarus waiting for the crumbs to fall from the rich man's table. His attitude may be summed up in his own words: "If the Government gives you half a loaf, take it, and stretch out your hand for the other half and strive to obtain it." His spirit of patriotism was shown while he was "On the road to Mandalay." His parting words, wafted back across the waters, were: "In spite of the verdict I maintain that there are higher powers ruling the destinies of men and of nations. If it be the will of Providence that the cause I represent shall profit more by my suffering than by my presence here, I am ready."

Mr. Tilak does not claim that Indians are yet able to look after their own affairs. He does not advocate the utter overthrow of the British in India. All he demands is that the natives of Hindostan shall be given a larger share in the administration of their country. He declares passionately: "We do not care what happens to ourselves. To imprison even 3,000 or 4,000 of us at the same time will embarrass the bureaucracy. Our object is to embarrass the bureaucracy, to attract the attention of England to our wrongs by obstructing the Government and diverting trade. By unintentional means—by railways, by a common official language, and by education—England has promoted the idea of Indian unity. The mere pressure of the English bureaucracy upon us makes for unity. It will not be complete among us, perhaps, for generations yet, but our faces are now set towards a splendid goal, and we shall not turn back."

II.—ARABINDA GHOSE: THE APOSTLE OF BENGAL.

As the man of the hour in India, Arabinda Ghose is only second in importance to Bal Gangadhar Tilak. Mr. Ghose is to-day on trial for complicity in the Terrorist conspiracy discovered last May. The trial has already lasted more than seven months, and is to all appearances as far off the end as ever.

Mr. Ghose is one of India's younger sons. He is yet in the thirties, and his rise in the nationalist firmament has been meteoric. The son of wealthy parents, he received every educational advantage which India provided, and was then sent to England, where he had a brilliant career at Cambridge. He handles the English language with a facile tongue and pen and has few peers in this respect in India. He has lectured, written, and done everything in his power to rouse the masses of India to a sense of their peril as a nation. Probably his chief work has been done through the columns of *Bande Mataram*, a daily paper of which he was editor. This paper was a Radical organ of the deepest dye—so Radical, in fact, that it was confiscated by the Government a few weeks ago for repeated seditious offences.

The trial for sedition of Aralinda Ghose in 1907 attracted attention all over India, and was watched with the keenest interest. Hardly had he squirmed out of this tight corner when he was arrested as the alleged ringleader of a band of bomb-throwers who caused the death of two English women and created consternation in official circles.

It is alleged that Arabinda Ghose gathered together as his followers a band of hot-headed youths and impressed them with the conviction that the only way India could be saved was for them to blow up every Briton in the Peninsula. It is claimed that in order to raise funds for the work he advised his followers to rob and pillage. Laboratories were established where young men experimented with explosives, attempting to learn how to make bombs.

Arabinda Ghose is a poor man to-day, for a few years ago he took the vow of poverty in order to work for his country's freedom. He had no money to secure a lawyer to defend him, and his sister, Miss Sarojini Ghose, appealed to the public for help. The manner in which gold poured into his defence fund from high and low, of all castes and creeds, proved how near and dear this so-called red anarchist is to the hearts of the people of India.

III.—BIPIN CHANDRA PAL: BOYCOTTER.

Babu Bipin Chandra Pal belongs to the same constellation as Tilak and Arabinda Ghose, and the brilliancy of his career is not dimmed by that of the former two. Mr. Pal has not been long out of gaol. His trip to the penitentiary was inspired by his spirit of patriotism. He is an arch-boycotter, only his propaganda of boycott does not stop with the boycott of British goods. He advocates that no native of the land should, in any measure, help the alien Government to administer the affairs of the country. In September, 1907, when brought to a British court to give testimony in the sedition case against *Bande Mataram*, which he had helped Arabinda Ghose to found, he refused point-blank to give evidence. He was prosecuted for contempt of court and was imprisoned.

Babu Bipin Chandra Pal is not unknown in America, as he toured the country in 1900, lecturing on religious subjects and contributing to magazines. He first saw the light of day in 1858 in Bengal. His father was a lawyer of considerable note in his district, and was able to give his son the advantages of a good education. As a child he was extremely precocious, and passed the High School examination while he was but a young lad. Following this he was taken to Calcutta by his father, and received the balance of his education at India's capital. While he was studying in Calcutta he was converted to Brahmoism, a Protestant Hindu faith. His father was an orthodox Hindu, and was enraged at his son's action in permitting himself to be proselyted. He vowed

Bipin Chandra Pal.

never again to look on the young man's face, and even went to the length of disinheriting him. The lad bravely stood his ground, and refused to be moved by his father's prayers or threats. The older man refused for ten years to see his son, but at last he was won over by the courage of his convictions which the young man showed.

Bipin Chandra Pal began his life as a school teacher. He acted in this capacity for several years, occupying various positions of trust in his chosen profession. He returned to his native town and established a High School there, founding scholarships which were to be bestowed upon poor deserving students. Finally, he was appointed Librarian to the City Library of Calcutta. This position gave him the opportunity to study the literature of the West. He drank deep at the fountain of Western learning and imbibed its noblest ideals. While holding this office his wife died. Bipin Chandra Pal was prostrated by her loss, and renounced the world, wandering for a time with holy men and acquiring from them a deep knowledge of Sanskrit, Vedantism, and Vaishnavism. In this way he became possessed of a vivid understanding of India's ancient literature.

Being a reformer by nature, it was but natural that Bipin Chandra Pal should set a good example to

Young India. He married the widowed niece of Surendranath Banerjee, the Bengali orator, and by this act struck at the old-time custom of forbidding widows to re-marry.

As a lecturer, "Bipin Babu," as he is fondly called in India, has made many notable speeches. A series of lectures in defence of Brahmoism electrified Bengal with his power of reasoning and his thrilling eloquence. These speeches placed him at the forefront of Bengal reformers. While his oratory had been appreciated and had attracted to him a large following, he did not venture into the political field to any great extent until he delivered a thrilling speech on the Arms Act, when the Indian National Congress met in Madras for the first time. This speech was a bitter denunciation of the British policy of keeping the people totally disarmed and thus emasculating them. Since making his first speech in the Indian National Congress, Mr. Pal has grown upon his countrymen, until to-day he is a leader amongst leaders. His popularity amongst Indians gained a fresh impetus when he was lately incarcerated for refusing to give evidence in a British Court. Indignation prevailed everywhere in India. Even his foes sympathised with him, and a large sum of money was collected by young men and presented to his wife. A monster mass meeting was held in Calcutta to protest against his imprisonment. When he was set free, after serving time for six months, large crowds gathered to "hail the conquering hero." While in prison he wrote two books—one in English and another in Bengali.

This man, whom the Indians regard as one of the best assets of the country, is feared by the British bureaucracy. He is under constant surveillance by the alien Government. He is mixed up in everything that is calculated to make for the regeneration of India, whether it be the establishment of national schools and colleges, arbitration courts, the promulgation of the boycott propaganda, or the Swadeshi spirit—that is to say, "India for the Indians." He is an eloquent and impressive platform speaker, and is considered one of the best living stump orators.

IV.—KRISHNAVARMA: THE INDIAN GADFLY.

Of late years India, inspired by the example of Japan, has sent out hordes of young men to foreign countries to qualify themselves for larger service to the Fatherland. These young men are the cream of India, and upon them rests the future of the country. The god of gods of these young men in foreign lands is Shiamji Krishnavarma, a distinguished graduate of Oxford University, and a wealthy man. For years he made England his home, and his house was thrown open to Indians of all creeds and opinions. If they needed money he let them have it, and in every way he looked after their welfare and urged them to stand up for the liberation of their land. Two years ago Mr. Krishnavarma moved his headquarters to Paris—that Mecca of revolutionists—feeling that his further residence in London might bring down on his head the ire of Great Britain. Before leaving England, however, he founded "India House" in a northern suburb of London, to serve as a home and headquarters for his countrymen.

Shiamji Krishnavarma might be termed a second Socrates, for, like the Athenian of old, he has constituted himself a gadfly to sting the Indians and keep them stirred up regarding the aggressions of their alien rulers. He is indefatigable and ubiquitous in his fight against the British misrule of India. So active was he a year ago that his name was brought up in parliamentary discussions, and his paper, the *Indian Sociologist*, was proscribed and debarred from circulation in India. The dauntless editor was not in the least disturbed by this radical action, but continued publishing his periodical and sending it to India as if the British Government did not exist. Presumably it was sent by letter post. Be that as it may, the *Indian Sociologist* found its way regularly to its Indian subscribers and continued to preach the doctrine of boycott and self-rule to the people of Hindostan. The *Indian Sociologist* is a small, four-page sheet, issued monthly, but its influence cannot be gauged by its size, for its resistance of British authority is vitriolic.

Mr. Krishnavarma is a boycotter of the deepest dye. He advocates a general boycott that shall extend to everything British—even the Britishers themselves. He declares that the British bureaucracy in India would break down in a single week if the natives would refuse to assist their foreign rulers; that the English residing in India would starve to death if the natives refused to cook and serve their meals; that the machinery of the British Government would come to a dead standstill if the Indian police and army should refuse to obey their orders.

Mr. Krishnavarma is one of the best educated Indians alive, and is a lawyer by profession, having been called to the Bar at the Inner Temple. His complexion is dark and swarthy. He wears spectacles and dresses like a missionary. He has devoted his entire life to bringing about the freedom of India from the heaviest of all yokes—the yoke of the foreigner. He has held many important official posts, but his spirit of patriotism led him to renounce everything that smacked of British rule, and since then he has resided out of India. His experience, while a Government official, brought him into close touch with many men at the head of Indian affairs. He understands all the secret methods of the Government, and he has made use of his knowledge of inside facts, without mercy, to hammer at the alien bureaucracy, making his stroke fall hardest on the sorest spots.

Mr. Shiamji Krishnavarma makes no secret of his mission. He advocates a complete self-rule for India. He does not profess to be a friend of the British. He even repudiates British citizenship, having been born

in a native State. All the Indian leaders combined are not wielding the amount of influence that Shiamji Krishnavarma does to alienate his countrymen from loyalty to their British rulers. He is a born organiser, and is marshalling the opposition against England with a view to freeing the country from the alien ruler. How far he will be successful no one can prophesy, but being a man of independent means, Mr. Krishnavarma is not afraid of the Britisher. When, early in 1908, he migrated to Paris, it was rumoured that, out of respect for the *entente cordiale*, the French Government would escort him to the frontier; he was not at all worried by the prospect, but made arrangements to carry on the propaganda elsewhere in case he was run out of France. This did not occur, however, and he is still living in Paris. He can afford to establish himself anew as many times as England may choose to drive him away.

Shiamji Krishnavarma founded the Herbert Spencer Scholarship of Oxford, and has fathered similar educational schemes elsewhere for the purpose of advancing the cause of India. One of the stipulations of these scholarships is that the holders shall not receive any of the loaves and fishes of the British administration.

V.—LAJPAT RAI: BRITAIN'S BOGEY.

Mr. Lajpat Rai is universally popular in India. By Extremists he is ranked as one of their party, while the Moderates look upon him as an arch-leader. In May, 1907, Mr. Lajpat Rai was exiled from his country, kept in captivity in Mandalay, and finally released. Great Britain looked upon him as a dangerous seditionist, which brought about his deportation; but the volume of agitation inspired by his incarceration without trial was so great that the Government was forced to free him and bring him back home.

Lala Lajpat Rai is a young man, being on the sunny side of forty-five. He is a man of many-sided activities. Early in life he joined the Arya Samaj, another of India's Protestant Hindu faiths, in whose cause he has worked indefatigably. The Arya Samaj founded the Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College at Lahore, which is reckoned as one of the premier educational institutions in the country. Lala Lajpat Rai was one of the founders of this college, and was largely instrumental in collecting 175,000 dols endowment fund. He has held various offices in the college, acting as vice-president and secretary, and Professor of History and Literature for a number of years. He has not only filled these positions without pay, but has contributed munificently from his own pocket. Mr. Lajpat Rai takes active interest in a number of educational institutions maintained by the Arya Samaj.

In philanthropic circles Mr. Rai is an important figure. He has organised relief work and orphanages, and in every manner, by his actions, has proved that the welfare of his people is very near to his heart. For years he has acted as General Secretary of the Arya Samaj Orphanage at Ferozepur, and is a member of the managing committee of the Waifs' Orphanage at Meerut. He organised a Hindu Orphan relief movement in 1897, and again in 1899–1900 and 1907–1908, which cared for thousands of helpless starvelings. So much was his famine relief work valued that in 1901 the Government requested him to give evidence before the Famine Commission, and his suggestions were considered of especial value, as he had personally inspected the famine district. At the time of the great earthquake in the Kangra district in 1905 he organised a relief committee. He visited the afflicted area, collected funds, and personally superintended the relief work. In all these philanthropies he attracted attention to himself because of the marvellous executive abilities which he displayed.

As an organiser and financier probably Lajpat Rai has no equal in his native province, the Punjab. He is a Director of the Punjab National Bank, which has a number of branches in different cities, and is interested in several cotton mills and cotton presses in the Punjab. Viscount Morley, Secretary of State for India, once characterised Lajpat Rai as "an accomplished lawyer." He was hardly eighteen when he opened his law office at Hissar, a small town in the Punjab. There he became a leader of the local bar. For three years he was Honorary Secretary of the Hissar Municipal Board. In 1892 he moved to Lahore, where his legal talents found a wider field of action. It was at Lahore that he made the bulk of his money, which made him independent of practice at forty.

Mr. Lajpat Rai has attracted attention as a *littérateur*. For several years he edited a vernacular magazine and a vernacular weekly journal. These publications were conducted in the interests of religious, social, and educational progress. He is the author of biographical monographs in the vernacular on Mazzini, Garibaldi, Sivaji, Swami Dayanand, and Krishna. These books have had a wide circulation in India. He has contributed frequently to a number of newspapers and magazines published in English, and has written in English a life of Pandit Gurudatta Vidyasthi, M.A., the Indian reformer, and also has compiled a concise history of Hindu civilisation down to the commencement of the Mussulman period.

It was in 1888 that Lala Lajpat Rai first became active in politics. In that year he joined the Indian National Congress when it met in Allahabad. He was selected by the Indian National Congress Committee, in 1905, to go to England and place before the British public the political grievances of the Indian people. One thousand dollars was voted by the Indian Association of the Punjab to pay his expenses, but the patriot refused to accept the money, and paid his way out of his own pocket. He travelled widely in England and the United States, and did propaganda work for the cause of India

during this trip. In 1905, when the Indian National Congress met at Benares, Lala Lajpat Rai took a prominent part in its deliberations, and actively supported a resolution on "the repressive measures in Bengal." At the last abortive session of the Indian National Congress a large number of delegates insisted upon his being made the president. He had just returned after being confined in the Rangoon fortress, and was held in high esteem. He refused to accept the office of president, but the Congress rose to its feet *en masse* to do him homage when he entered the pavilion.

VI.—RAMANANDA CHATTERJEE: JOURNALIST-AGITATOR.

Until a few years ago the Indian leaders have presented an undivided front in their attempts to dethrone the British bureaucracy and substitute in its stead a government for and by the people. The divisions—Extremist and Moderate—are barely five years old. The bone of contention between the two factions is whether or not Great Britain is to be permitted to retain suzerainty over India after the country has obtained self-government. This point of difference, it will be readily seen, is a mere academic question, for complete Home Rule is not destined to dawn on Hindostan to-morrow. Accordingly the sanest Indians do not permit themselves to be labelled Extremist or Moderate. They prefer to be called Nationalists: that is to say, they are for a "nationhood of India," undivided by caste, religious or racial differences.

A notable representative of this order of Nationalists is Ramananda Chatterjee. He belongs to the class of leaders who seek, through the medium of the Press, to rouse India to a sense of its fallen condition and inspire the natives of the land to help themselves. He is pre-eminently an editor, although during his useful life he has been associated with many reform movements. At present he is the editor, publisher and owner of the *Modern Review*, a high-grade illustrated monthly magazine, published in English, and *Prabasi*, a Bengalee organ, published in the vernacular.

Mr. Chatterjee was born in 1865, and is one of the younger leaders of Indian thought. He is a Master of Arts of the Calcutta University. For years he was a Professor of English in the Calcutta City College, and later was made Principal of the Kayastha Pathsala (College) of Allahabad. His reform work began early in life. While he was still a young man he was one of a band of youths who founded a society called the "Dasasram"—the Institute of Servants. The members were styled "servants," and the chief object of the society was to conduct a home for incurables and invalids of all castes and creeds. This was the first indigenous institution of its kind in Bengal, and Professor Chatterjee was for years active in its management, and edited its monthly organ, *The Dasi*, devoted to philanthropic subjects, the first and only journal of its kind in India.

Upon moving to Allahabad, Professor Chatterjee's activities became greatly multiplied. He was made President of the Anglo-Indian Temperance Council for the North-West Provinces of Oudh and Behar; honorary secretary of the Allahabad Orphanage; a member of the general committee of the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj, and lay-minister of the Allahabad Brahmo Samaj. He was sub-editor, and subsequently associate editor, of the *Indian Messenger*; associate editor of the *Indian Mirror* and the *Sanjibani*; editor of the *Pradip*, the best Bengalee children's magazine, and author of two popular Bengalee primers. He was twice a delegate to the Indian National Congress. In 1907 he moved to Calcutta, where he is now editing the *Modern Review* and *Prabasi*.

Professor Ramananda Chatterjee is a fearless man in everything he undertakes. While he does not advocate anarchy or revolution, he is aggressive and demands fair play on the part of the British. Probably his most telling strokes against the English Government have been administered through the columns of the *Modern Review*, in which, month after month, Professor Chatterjee piles charge upon charge, fact upon fact, in splendid argumentative articles which prove that England did not come to India actuated by humanitarian motives, and that England is holding India, not for the country's good, but for British gain. He is an adept at compiling, and invariably proves his case by quoting the other side. The preparation of his articles in the *Modern Review* and *Prabasi* requires an immense amount of research work; and few Indians are so well versed in the history of England in its relations with India in the pre-Victorian, Victorian, and what might be termed the Morleyan era. He makes the compilation of these articles his specialty at present, and his work is done in a quiet, unobtrusive way.

Professor Chatterjee is a man of quiet character. There is nothing about him blustering, argumentative or revolutionary. He is firm as a rock when once he determines to do a thing. He hews to the line and lets the chips fall where they may, in a judicial, methodical manner, and constitutes one of India's strongest forces because of his cool-headedness and calm determination. He is stubborn in the right and cannot be coaxed, cajoled or threatened from any stand he has taken. He has for years taken a prominent part in the Swadeshi and boycott movement. He has not, for the past twelve years, worn any article of dress of foreign manufacture, nor does he use foreign sugar or British salt. Though belonging by nativity to a high-caste Brahmin family, he is a radical social reformer and has discarded the "sacred thread," which is the distinctive mark of Brahminhood. He lives simply and is a vegetarian and a total abstainer from intoxicating drinks.

CURRENT HISTORY IN CARICATURE.

"O wad some power the giftie gie us,
To see oursels as ithers see us."—BURNS.

By permission of the proprietors of "Punch."]

The Adopted Father.

ABDUL HAMID: "Well, if anyone had told me a year ago that I should come to this!"

Morning Leader.]

THE EDUCATION DOCTOR (to the Archbishop): "My dear Archbishop, can it be that this is the remedy you really want?"

Picture Politics.]

THE ARCHBISHOP: "I am very glad to see that you Scottish boys have such exceptional educational advantages. You are more fortunate than your English schoolfellows. Why is it?"

SCOTTISH BOY (TOMMY SHAW): "Well, your Grace, we in Scotland know the value of education, and we have had no religious difficulty to interfere with it."

Westminster Gazette.]

Cause and Effect.

MR. KEIR HARDIE: "Look at that list, Mr. Bull—not one of them would have been passed if it hadn't been for our Labour Party!"

MR. BULL: "Yes, Mr. Keir Hardie; but how many of those things would have been passed if there had been a Tory Government since 1906 instead of a Liberal Government?"

Lepracaun.] [Dublin.

The Waits Still Waiting.

LAND PURCHASE BILL: "They won't get much playing outside that door. They're all out of tune, and it would take ME to teach them harmony, so it would."

Kladderadatsch.] [Berlin.

At the Almshouse.

EDWARD AND WILHELM: "We have given up for good all personal interference in politics."

International Syndicate.] [Baltimore.

The American Agreement with Japan.

The United States and Japan have formed an agreement to look after China and to protect their interests in the Pacific.—*News Item.*

Fischietto.] [Turin.

An Italian View.

The English and the German navies are getting so hugely stout that they will soon be no longer able to fight each other.

[Ulk. [Berlin.

More than Doubtful.

GERMAN TAXPAYER: "I wonder whether they will ever come down again."

Ulk. Berlin.

The German Taxpayer as Mazeppa.

[New York

Oliver Twist asks for more.

[Turin.

The Sausage Machine.

Grinding the German Peasants into Warships.

Ulk.] [Berlin.

Germania's Illness.

"Madam, your temperament has a great deal to do with your sufferings, and that I can't help. I confess frankly that I myself don't expect this medicine to do you much good."

Wahre Jacob.] [Stuttgart.

The Dardanelles Again.

The Russian Bear and the British Lion are looking greedily at Turkey's pot of Dardanelles jam, and wondering whether they had not better eat both it and him too.

Cairo Punch.]

The Still Empty Coffin.

SPHINX: "You have grown old, John, in this country. When will you join those who have gone before you, and rest in this beautiful coffin that I have prepared for you?"

JOHN BULL: "That coffin will remain empty as long as you are ready to fly at each other's throats."

Pasquino.] [Turin.

ITALY (between Russia and Austria): "The Eagle or the Bear? Which is it to be? Alas! both of them have sharp claws!"

Sketches of Mr. Rockefeller as a Witness by Newspaper Artists.

By Stein in the New York *World*. | By Davenport in the New York *Evening Mail*. | By Frederick in the New York *American*.

Lustige Blätter.] [Berlin.

The Dear Children!

(1.) In the Bulgarian nursery they are playing "Tsar."
(2.) In the Servian, "War." (3.) In the Turkish, "Parliament."
(4.) In the Austrian, with their new dolls, "Bosnia" and "Herzegovina."
(5.) In the English, they are playing "Interview."
(6.) But in the German nursery they are not playing at all; they are learning to read instead. (N.B.—They hope some day to be able to read writing, as well as print.)

Le Rire.] [Paris.

The Trouble with Peace.

PEACE: "My end draws nearer. I have too many doctors."

Minneapolis Journal.]

A Sign of Peace.

Westminster Gazette.]

Adding Insult to Injury.

THE DOG: "I don't think much of your little litter!"
THE CAT: "Confound you! Why, you killed one of my biggest kittens and you helped all you could to squash another!"

Pasquino.] [Turin

Germany's Real Peril.

Pasquino] [Turin.

The Triple Alliance.

GERMANY: "Take care, boys, or we shall all three fall together."

Il Papagallo.] [Bologna.

The Triumph of the Young Turks.

The labours of the Young Turkish Party have at last made it possible for the bone of Despotism to be buried. Dame Europe, out of gratitude, offers Turkey some "Politics" tobacco: "This," she says, "is composed of party struggles and votes by ballot. Let it be a source of Civilisation, Freedom and Progress to you."

The One and Only Way to Settle the Licensing Question.

A SCHEME SIMPLE, PRACTICAL, AND PROFITABLE.

I.—THE CASE STATED.

THE rejection of the Licensing Bill by the House of Lords left the Government and the country face to face with a stone wall. No subsequent House of Commons is likely to be elected for the next fifty years which will give as large a majority for any Licensing Bill as that by which last year's Bill was sent up to the House of Lords. If the House of Lords could reject last year's Bill with impunity, despite the immense majority in its favour in the Commons, there is no chance of passing any similar Bill in our time through Parliament. If the rejection of the Bill had been followed by a furious popular agitation against the Peers, there might have been some hope that a second Licensing Bill might have been accepted. But there has been no agitation

Westminster Gazette.]

A Block on the Road.

THE ROAD SURVEYOR: "Well—something will have to be done!"

against the House of Lords, furious or otherwise. So far as by-elections go, they afford conclusive evidence that the electorate is not stirred to its depths by indignation, or even by impatience, against the action of the Second Chamber. For any licensing reform on the old lines there is now no possibility of success. The great Liberal Party has made its frontal attack, and it has failed as completely as General Buller failed at Colenso.

THE ALTERNATIVES BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT.

The Liberal Party, therefore, is reduced to the acceptance of two alternatives. It must either take its defeat lying down, confessing its impotence and erasing licensing reform from its programme, or it must devise some other method of coping with the admitted evils of the Trade. To adopt the former would be to throw up the sponge by an admission that the Government and the Liberal Party are impotent to deal with what they have loudly declared to be the most urgent of all measures of Social Reform.

As it is unthinkable that the Liberals will adopt the former, therefore it follows that they must adopt the latter alternative. Abandoning the frontal attack, they must devise some other plan of campaign. And the question of questions is what that plan of campaign must be.

PUNITIVE LICENCE DUTY.

The only suggestion that has hitherto been put forward is that the Government should avenge their defeat and choke their deficit by imposing a swingeing licence duty upon the purveyors of intoxicants. This is within the competence of the House of Commons. It is also proposed to increase the taxes levied upon alcohol. "You can, of course," said a great brewer to me the other day, "tax us out of existence if you choose." But however desirable such a consummation may appear to many worthy people, the Treasury cannot afford to kill the goose that lays thirty-six million golden eggs every year. Ministers with a huge deficit to choke will not carry the maltreatment of the goose so far as to impair its egg-laying capacity. In the opinion of many experts, to increase the taxation on intoxicants beyond the present limit would result in a decrease of net receipts from customs and excise—which is the very last thing the Chancellor of the Exchequer desires. It is possible to increase licence duties, but comparatively little can be obtained in this way unless the increase is extended far beyond the holders of on-licences. Drink is distributed to the drinker through many channels, of which the public-house is only one. To increase the cost of on-licences would immediately drive business into other channels, of which four may be mentioned:—

(1) The house-to-house distribution in barrels direct from the brewery.

(2) The sale in clubs, which will replace the public-houses.

(3) The supply governed by grocers' licences; and

(4) The sale through wine and spirit merchants.

All these sources would have to be laid under contribution if the price of licences is to be raised, and every extension of the tax screw would swell the army of those who would sink politics to defend their pockets.

SOMETHING MUST BE DONE!

But even if Ministers faced the music and braved the consequences, the mere increase of licence duties, while it might benefit the Exchequer, would aggravate rather than diminish all the social and moral evils which were aimed at by the Licensing Bill. And it would admittedly enormously increase the electoral activity of the vendors of intoxicants who have already given us such a taste of their quality at Chelmsford and elsewhere.

Therefore I take it as demonstrated that if the Liberal Party is to justify the confidence of the nation it must rise to the height of this great occasion by producing next session a financial measure which will settle the question on broad national lines in such a way as to secure, first, the immediate and effective control of the whole drink traffic by the people, and, secondly, the provision of a substantial relief for the Exchequer. Fortunately, these two objects, so far from being incompatible, can be secured by a very simple and practical measure, the adoption of which depends entirely upon the courage, the initiative, and the faith of Ministers and their supporters.

WHAT MUST BE DONE.

What is that measure? It is simply this. That the nation should buy up, lock, stock and barrel, the whole of the liquor trade of the country and make the supply of intoxicants henceforward a Government monopoly.

If anyone should shrink from so drastic an operation let him remember that if the Government shrinks from possessing itself of the Trade, the Trade will inevitably possess itself of the Government.

THE LION (?) IN THE PATH.

What is the lion in the way? There is only one, but it is only a painted lion. There are a certain, or rather an uncertain, number of estimable men and women who are so convinced of the evils of drink that nothing will induce them to consent to purchase the greatest possible improvement in the social and moral condition of the people if the price paid has to be the assumption by the State of direct responsibility for the sale of intoxicating liquor. The fact that their *non possumus* makes the Brewer and the Publican absolute rulers of England does not trouble their consciences. To save their little band, say a million strong, from having part or lot in the accursed thing, the remaining thirty-nine millions they deliver over to the unchecked license of the present system. They have by a process of subtle casuistry persuaded themselves that they can lawfully enrich the Exchequer to the tune of £36,000,000 a year by allowing brewer and distiller and publican a free field to push the sale of drink by every mode of advertising enterprise, but that they would deserve everlasting perdition if by a State monopoly they destroyed the temptations born of competition and placed the control of the traffic in the hands of the representatives of the nation to be conducted for the benefit of the people and the profit of the Exchequer.

THE WORST ENEMIES OF TEMPERANCE REFORM.

These fanatics are fortunately few, but if, unfortunately, they are allowed to intimidate the Government—for of them it may be said there is much cry and precious little wool, as the devil said when he sheared the sow—then we may bid good-bye to all hope of Temperance Reform for another generation. Bung will be king henceforth, but it will be Mr. Leif Jones and his merry men who will place the crown upon his brow.

The first word of salvation for Temperance Reform is to ignore the Temperance Obstructionist. He has been proved once more to be absolutely impotent to effect any improvement. His attempts have ended in making the Trade the masters of the situation, and masters they will remain so long as the voice of the Obstructive Prohibitionist is heard and obeyed.

A CLEAN SLATE AND A FREE HAND.

If we bought up the whole liquor trade, lock, stock and barrel, and make Eduardus Rex and his trusty and well-beloved servants the sole brewers, distillers, and purveyors of intoxicants to the lieges, we should achieve at one stroke and at once what the Licensing Bill sought to secure incompletely after the lapse of fourteen or twenty-one years. The nation would acquire immediately a Clean Slate and a Free Hand. It would be free to deal as drastically as it thought fit with all the evils of the existing system. It could try every kind of experiment, from absolute prohibition up to free trade in drink, according to the will of the people, without doing any violence to the vested interests of anybody.

THE RIGHT AND THE WRONG TACK.

The more dangerous the Trade, the more necessary is it that it should be taken out of the hands of those who have a personal interest in increasing the sale of alcohol to a maximum, and vested in the hands of those who would have a direct personal interest in making the supply of intoxicants subsidiary to the social conveniences and amenities of the public-house. At present the whole pressure of our restrictive legislation tends to convert the good old English inn into a mere guzzling and swilling bar-counter, in which the worst elements are developed at the cost of the best. If we bought them all up we could restore the lost ideal of the People's Club and Hostel. The poor man's only parlour is at present too often a ginshop. If it were the Public-House of the Public, conducted in the Public interest and for the Public profit, under the vigilant supervision and encouragement of the Government, we should convert the most fertile source of social demoralisation into the most potent instrument for social amelioration.

II.—OBJECTIONS MET.

A vain dream, do you say? So far is it from being a vain dream that it is a practical reform that lies within the grasp of Mr. Lloyd George if he will but have the courage to grasp it. And so far is it from being visionary, that if Mr. Lloyd George were to grasp his nettle firmly he would acquire at once more globular millions by consent than he can hope to obtain by the most successful forays he can make upon the hen-roosts of hostile neighbours.

WHAT WOULD IT COST?

"But the cost would be excessive?" The cost of buying up the Trade cannot be precisely ascertained. But various estimates have been published which vary from £100,000,000 to £200,000,000. The larger sum includes the purchase of the breweries as well as of the public-houses. Suppose we take it that it would cost two hundred millions. To float a loan for a war or for any other unproductive expenditure would be a formidable financial operation. But to issue two hundred millions Three per Cent. Bonds to the owners of the property which at present brings in, according to Mr. Sherwell's estimate, £16,000,000 profit, would be the simplest operation imaginable. The State would, by guaranteeing the payment of six millions a year, come into possession of a gilt-edged security yielding at least double that amount.

WOULD IT PAY?

"But the State could not run it as cheaply as the present owners?" Yes and no. It would not run it so cheaply or so profitably, because it would not force drinking. But against this must be put the immense economy that would be effected by the stoppage of all competitive expenditure, advertising, and the like. As a financial operation the Treasury could confidently count upon covering its guarantee and having something over. And the State would gain enormously in the moral improvement of the habits of the people.

PRECEDENTS.

"But the idea is new, and such a thing would be entirely without precedent?"

The idea is not new, and there are many precedents. In Russia the manufacture of vodka is a State monopoly yielding £53,000,000 per annum. In Switzerland the Republic has a monopoly of the sale of spirits. In North Carolina the State owned the drink trade. In Sweden and Norway, where the Gothenburg system had its birth, the sale of alcohol per head is the lowest in Europe. In Roumania, after twenty-five years' agitation, the State has municipalised the sale of drink outside all the large towns. The Roumanians rejected the English system expressly on the ground that it placed the Government in the hands of the trade.

WHAT POLITICIANS THINK OF IT?

"But no British politicians could be found to approve of it." To this I am in a position to reply with some confidence, for I have for the last month been diligently taking soundings in the camps of both parties and in the headquarters of the Trade. I have been astounded to find that nearly every one whom I have approached has been more or less in favour of the proposition.

Among those whom I have interrogated, personally or by letter, are Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Balfour, Lord Morley, Mr. Rufus Isaacs, Lord Lamington, Lord Lytton, Mr. Sherwell, Lord Blyth, Mr. Edward North Buxton, Mr. Aldous (secretary of the Brewers' Protection Society), and other well-known brewers, and several Bishops. The attitude of all with whom I have spoken is one of sympathetic interest, coupled with a general indisposition to take the first step. Each side prefers to be approached by the other. But, excepting on the part of one Bishop, I found no pronounced opposition. The immense advantages of such a bold and radical method of dealing with the question were admitted by all. But "I prefer to withhold my judgment," said one brewer, "until I know what price I am to have for my brewery." "If I meant to buy them up," said a leading statesman, "I should be the last man to say that I had any such intention." That is very reasonable. It is sufficient at present to know that, like Mr. Balfour, no one seems to have any objection to the scheme in principle.

WHAT MR. LLOYD GEORGE HAS SAID.

The man on horseback on this question is the Chancellor of the Exchequer. I do not know what that exalted personage will decide; but I do happen to know what Mr. Lloyd George thought in 1904. When Mr. Balfour's Licensing Bill was before the House, Mr. Lloyd George made a direct appeal to the Prime Minister to buy up the trade and settle the question once for all. He said:—

> The temperance question urgently demanded attention in the real interest of this country. Now let him make an appeal to the Prime Minister, if he might do so. Why did not the right honourable gentleman take this question up and try to effect a real settlement? Here was a question of enormous importance, and he had a perfectly unique opportunity of settling it. There were extreme men on both sides of the House. He said the same thing in regard to the education question. He had always felt in regard to the education question that if they could close their doors, turn out the reporters, and vote by ballot, they would be able to solve their difficulties by the morning. Similarly with the temperance question. He was certain there were men on the Benches opposite who were intensely desirous of settling this question, and who were as fully convinced of the dangers of the drink traffic as any teetotaler. He was convinced the Prime Minister could bring in a Bill which, while it might perhaps excite animosity on the part of the brewery interest, and he feared say on the part of his honourable friend the Member for Cornwall (Sir W. Lawson), would really help to settle the question. If the Prime Minister had come down and said that this was a question which must be settled, and that he was going to buy out the interests of the trade in order to place the whole business in the hands of the people, no matter what it might cost, one would have felt sympathy with him, and admired the daring of the scheme, and at the same time one would have felt

that he was making a real effort to settle the question.* But this Bill was simply putting off the evil day and making that evil day worse when it arrived. If the right honourable gentleman were to follow the example of a great predecessor in his own party—Sir Robert Peel—and, not considering the selfish interests of men on his own side, not considering even extreme appeals from the other side, but simply considering that there was a great evil from which his country was suffering, and that the opportunity had arrived for settling it, and boldly faced the problem and insisted on settling it, he would have added lustre to the great renown he had already attained.

The opportunity which Mr. Balfour had in 1904 is now in the hands of Mr. Lloyd George. His place in history will probably depend upon the courage with which he acts upon the advice which four years ago he pressed in vain upon Mr. Balfour.

A VOICE FROM LANCASHIRE.

When I was prosecuting my enquiries I received a little green-backed pamphlet bearing the attractive title "HOW TO NATIONALISE AND CURTAIL THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC AND PROVIDE £20,000,000 FOR SOCIAL REFORM." It contained a report of an address by Mr. Ritzema, of the *Northern Daily Telegraph*, formerly manager of the *Daily News*. Mr. Ritzema approached the question from the point of view of the temperance reformer. After dwelling at length upon "the appalling evil" of our national drunkenness, he said :—

> His suggestion was that they should nationalise the manufacture, importation, and sale of strong drink. In order to do this he would buy out on fair terms all breweries, distilleries, and licences, including all businesses of wine merchants and wine importers. He had made an estimate—it might be an outside one—that it might cost the nation £300,000,000 sterling. They would say that it was a big sum of money, and so it was ; but he would remind them it was less than two years' cost of liquor to the nation. It was only fifty millions more than the cost of the South African war. We could afford not only to be just but to be generous in buying out the "trade," because we should take over the most profitable monopoly in the kingdom.

£20,000,000 PROFIT!

Mr. Ritzema then went into an elaborate calculation that if the Government reduced the drink bill by 25 per cent., they would still make a clear profit of £20,000,000 a year over and above all the money they now receive from the excise customs and licence duties. I think Mr. Ritzema is too sanguine. Even if the Government merely covered its expenses, the moral and social advantages accruing from the operation would justify such a venture. But Mr. Ritzema stands to his figures.

NATIONALISATION APPROVED BY TEETOTALERS.

I asked him how the teetotalers took it To my great surprise he said that in Lancashire, where he had been addressing meetings on the subject, he found them enthusiastically in favour of his scheme. They are all against municipalising the liquor trade, but they are all in favour of nationalising it. It seems a curious distinction. But we all know how the Nonconformist conscience, which passively resists rates, is quite reconciled to paying taxes, for religious education, and the same subtle distinction may prevail in temperance circles.

WHY NOT A NATIONAL SETTLEMENT?

If Mr. Ritzema be right, then the road is clear for Mr. Lloyd George. Mr. Chamberlain, we all know, has been from the first a staunch supporter of the principle of vesting the supply of drink, not in the publicans, but in the public. Mr. Balfour and several of his colleagues on the front Opposition Bench accept the principle, only suspending judgment until they see the details. The brewers are sick of the prolonged battle which injures their shareholders without benefiting the public.

Cannot a great national effort be made, not on party lines, to cope with an admitted evil, and at the same time to meet a great Imperial financial necessity?

A PERSONAL APPEAL.

I appeal to my readers, and through them I appeal to legislators in both Houses of Parliament, to seriously consider whether they should not seize this golden opportunity of bringing to an end an embittered controversy which, for thirty years at least, has stood in the way of all social progress on lines of rational temperance reform?

And especially I would appeal to the Labour Party, which is hungry for more old-age pensions, and the patriots who are resolute for maintaining our naval supremacy, to join hands in urging upon the Government to take a step which is so urgently desired, alike in the interests of Imperial safety, of national credit, and of social reform.

* Curiously enough, Hansard in reporting this speech entirely missed the meaning of this vital sentence, converting Mr. Lloyd George's appeal into nonsense. What he really said is substantially as printed above.

The Conquest of the Air.

A Montgolfière Hot-air Balloon.

TO fly has been the ambition of man for countless ages. The greatest heroes of ancient mythology were given wings or winged steeds by means of which they sped to the rescue of captive damsels and attacked furious monsters. But although the realisation of this ambition has received the careful attention of inventors and students from earliest times, there is no authentic record of anyone having left mother earth on any machine until 1783.

Then the brothers Montgolfier—sons of a rich paper-maker in Annonay, France—discovered that hot air enclosed in a bag caused it to ascend and remain aloft until the air cooled. The soaring tendency of a petticoat hung to dry above a stove gave Montgolfier the idea from which the modern balloon has been evolved. Successful ascents were made in hot air balloons, which remained floating as long as three-quarters of an hour. Hydrogen rapidly took the place of hot air as the lifting agent, and rubber-coated silk superseded paper for the containing envelope. The first man to cross the English Channel in a balloon was Blanchard in 1785.

Many attempts were made to devise a balloon which could be steered, but for seventy years after the first balloon ascent nothing was achieved on these lines. Balloons themselves were, however, constantly being improved during this period. In 1852 Giffard succeeded in making a small steam engine of 3 h.-p., which only weighed 100 lbs. It occurred to him that this might be useful in aeronautical work, so he built a cigar-shaped balloon, to which he attached his steam engine. This required fuel in the shape of a quarter of a ton of coal and water. He made several steerable balloons of this type, but the cost was too great, and he desisted. Nothing further was done on these lines until the siege of Paris, when Dupuy de Lôme built one, the propeller of which was worked by eight men. The German, Paul Haenlein, constructed a dirigible balloon much more on the lines of present day practice. He had the small internal air ballonet which is now always used in dirigibles. A 2·8 h.-p. gas-engine drove a four-bladed propeller at forty revolutions per minute. Being, however, only filled with coal gas, the balloon lacked lifting power.

An electrically driven engine developing 9 h. p. was used by Captain Renard on *La France* in 1884. This dirigible proved successful, returning five times out of seven to its starting-place. The two-bladed propeller was in front, and a movable weight was used for balancing. Its range was too limited, however, to make it a practical ship of the air, but it served its purpose in demonstrating the possibility of driving and steering a balloon in the air in much the same way as a ship in the water. The building of *La France* was the last notable attempt towards the conquest of the air in the nineteenth century

Giffard's Dirigible Balloon.

The first to be made on the lines of present day practice.

The Dirigible "La France."

It was not until the development of the petrol motor to its present state of efficiency that the conquest of the air became a possibility. The rapid introduction of motor-cars and the necessity of having powerful engines of light weight and small size induced the most skilful engineers to devote their energies to the production of this type. The great progress which has been made in dirigibles and flying machines since the beginning of this century is almost entirely due to the petrol engine, so that indirectly the motor-car, which has conquered the highways of the earth, is responsible for the conquest of the air.

The machines which have attempted this conquest may roughly be divided into two sections—those lighter than air and those heavier than air. This first group is again sub-divided into spherical balloons, which are at the mercy of every wind that blows, and dirigible balloons of either rigid, semi-rigid, or non-rigid types.

The shape of all dirigible balloons of whatever type is necessarily similar. A cigar-shaped cylinder is the only form which can possibly be propelled against a wind with any chance of success. Count Zeppelin is the chief advocate of the rigid system. His balloons are indeed lighter than air, but they cannot rise to any great height unless driven against a wind, when the balloon acts much as an aëroplane would and soars upwards in a long slant.

M. Lebaudy favours the semi-rigid balloon, but the Clement-Bayard, the latest French dirigible, is a non-rigid airship, as is the *Ville de Paris*, its immediate predecessor. Several of the French machines consist of a gas-bag stiffened with a long rigid keel just below. Great Britain, following slowly after the Continental Powers, made a disastrous start with a non-rigid airship, and is now experimenting with one of the Lebaudy pattern, in which the gas-bag receives stiffening from framework.

Of all these airships the most successful is that of Count Zeppelin, who has earned the honour of making a rigid balloon a practical ship of the air. His creation consists of an incollapsible shell, divided into compartments, each containing a separate gas-bag. This system avoids any danger of collapse owing to insufficient internal pressure, and does away with the danger of tilting due to the gas rushing to either end of the gas-bag. It also enables the cars and propelling machinery to be rigidly connected to the framework, thus obtaining the maximum possible result from the propellers. But with all these advantages the Zeppelin airship has the great defect of all lighter-than-air structures, but has it in a much greater degree than its semi-rigid and non-rigid rivals. The untimely fate of the ship which was hailed so enthusiastically as the conqueror of the air was a striking example of this. Except in an absolute calm his type of airship can only come to rest on water, and must at once be housed in a shed which protects it from the wind. This enormously limits its field of action and usefulness.

The other types of dirigibles can, if necessary, be deflated to protect them from the wind and weather, but once deflated they are of course useless and must be carted back to their base or to some spot where the necessary gas can be obtained. This in time of

Photograph by [*Journal.*

The "Ville de Paris" on her First Trip, Nov. 9th, 1908.

The Zeppelin Airship over Zürich.

war, for instance, is a most serious defect. All the modern lighter-than-air dirigibles have had serious disasters due chiefly to stress of weather. The list is a long one and the loss must have been enormous. The Wellman airship, built to conquer the North Pole, was destroyed by a gale. The Lebaudy ships have met with serious accidents—one was destroyed in a storm at Chalons, and the *Patrie* was torn away by a gale which hurled it across England and plunged its broken remnants into the Atlantic. The first dirigible of the British Army, after a much belauded sail from Aldershot to London, was destroyed by the wind at its anchorage near the Crystal Palace. The flaming disappearance of Zeppelin's ill-fated airship is still fresh in the memory.

More recently still the German non-rigid airship, the *Parseval*, had to descend ignominiously on the roof of a house, from where, much battered, it was rescued by the local fire brigade. The Russian military dirigible escaped in a gale, and dragging itself over house-roofs, knocking down chimneys, carrying away telephone posts, was finally rescued by soldiers from a network of broken telegraph wires. This dirigible would have been entirely lost, as was the *Patrie*, had it not been for the fact that when the men found they could not hold it any longer, the crew of eight jumped into the car, instead of allowing the balloon to break away alone. Such acts of gallantry reflect more credit on the Russians than does their dirigible itself. Santos Dumont was constantly in disasters, from which he only escaped by his daring and coolness.

Altogether the record of the dirigible balloon is not a happy one. The danger this type of airship always runs directly the weather becomes rough, and the practical necessity of having special sheds to house it in whenever it descends, makes it highly improbable that the permanent conquest of the air will ever be attained by its means.

The Parseval Dirigible as it originally appeared. Later the ends were more pointed.

The heavier-than-air machines can roughly be divided into four groups—gliding machines,

The last Photograph taken of Lilienthal in his Biplane Glider.

aëroplanes, orthopters, and machines depending entirely upon propellers to sustain them in the air. Gliding machines and aëroplanes may, however, practically be considered to be one group only, for the first-named, although of great importance, serve merely as a means for obtaining data and experience to be applied to the construction of the latter. The third group, the orthopters, endeavour to obtain the necessary buoyancy and propulsion by copying as closely as possible the action of a bird; excepting for a few fanatics everyone has dropped the idea of flying by their means. It is no more reasonable to model a flying-machine upon a bird than it is to build a ship like a duck, or try to make a locomotive walk on four legs in imitation of a horse. In air-machines, as in ships and vehicles, rotary motion must take the place of the propulsory methods employed by nature.

The general principle of an aëroplane is much the same as that of the kite, the pull of the string being replaced by the thrust of a screw. In fact, kite experiments have been of immense use in aëroplane construction. Hargraves, an Australian, invented the box-kite, some form of which is now generally used for observation kites which require to be very stable. The superposed planes of the box-kite are reproduced in most of the modern aëroplanes.

Lilienthal was the pioneer of gliding flight, and was successful in solving many of the problems of aviation. When he began his experiments his knowledge of the laws which govern air currents was exceedingly slight. Even now we know little about them, and how to overcome erratic puffs and currents of wind and secure stability in machines depending for their buoyancy upon the reaction of the air is the greatest problem the aviator has to solve.

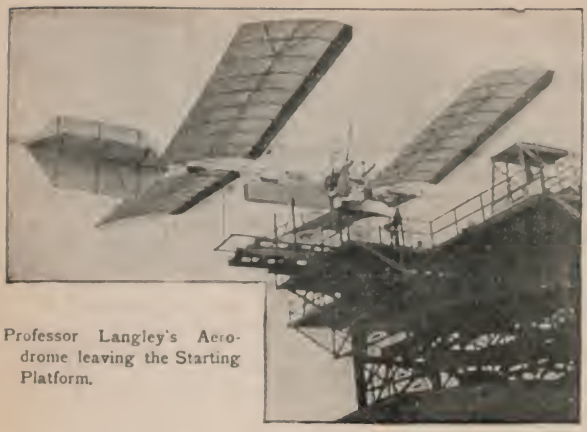
Lilienthal's machine consisted of two large wings and a tail. He hung between the two wings with his arms over the framework, counteracting the air currents, which constantly threatened to overturn his machine, and steering by swinging his body from side to side, forward or backward, as the case might be.

From tip to tip the wings had a span of 23 ft. They were made of calico, supported on a frame of wickerwork. At first they were flat, but he speedily discovered that he obtained much better results with curved surfaces. He never felt, however, that he had much control over this machine, and, experimenting further, found that he obtained far greater stability if he had another pair of rigid wings above the original ones. He had also much greater control over the machine, as the extra surface thus obtained enabled him to greatly reduce the length of the wings. He went on experimenting, although he was much hampered by lack of funds. In fact, he had to devote considerable time to other inventions—some of which are now used in the German Navy—to make a living. He lost his life in 1896, falling from a height of fifty feet. A gust of wind tipped up his machine, and one of the wings, which had been damaged in a previous flight, and was, unfortunately, not properly repaired, is supposed to have given way. The machine turned completely over.

Lilienthal may undoubtedly be regarded as the father of modern aëroplane flying-machines. All these have copied the curved surface introduced by Lilienthal, and his superposed planes, imitated by Chanute, were further elaborated by the Wrights, and are now used, with few exceptions, by all makers of aëroplanes.

The importance of Lilienthal's work and experiments is only now being properly realised. Those

Lilienthal's Glider, photographed from below.



Professor Langley's Aerodrome leaving the Starting Platform.

who followed after him have in many cases used three or even more planes; but whilst increased stability may be attained in this way, the greater resistance of the cutting edges of the planes demand increased horse-power in the engines. It seems probable that two or three superposed planes will generally be found to give the best results. The monoplane is, however, by no means abandoned, although its disadvantages are the huge spread of wing it requires, and the need of flying at a great speed. Unfortunately Lilienthal did not leave much available data of all his discoveries in aeronautics. What he did leave has, however, proved of immense value.

Pilcher, an Englishman, followed him, and became very expert in managing gliding machines. He attached a motor to one of his machines, but was unfortunately killed in much the same way as Lilienthal before he achieved any considerable advance over what Lilienthal had already done.

Many others now began experimenting along the same lines, excellent results being obtained by Chanute and Herring, who made some remarkable machines in America. Chanute worked out the idea of securing equilibrium by moving the planes instead of the man.

The honour of constructing the first model aeroplane to make any considerable flight by means of propellers worked by its own engines rests with the late Professor Langley, director of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington. His death was a great loss to aviation generally, as his researches into air currents and the stability of aeroplanes were of immense value to everyone who was attempting the conquest of the air.

Towards the end of 1896 his aerodrome, as it was called, covered a distance of one mile in one and three-quarter minutes. The machine was 8ft. 6in. long without the rudder, and the wings had a span of 15ft. They were not superposed, but were arranged in pairs one behind the other. The motive power was provided by a little steam-engine working two propellers between the two wings. The entire machine weighed only 28lb. It had to be launched from a special platform floating on the Potomac River, where the trials were made.

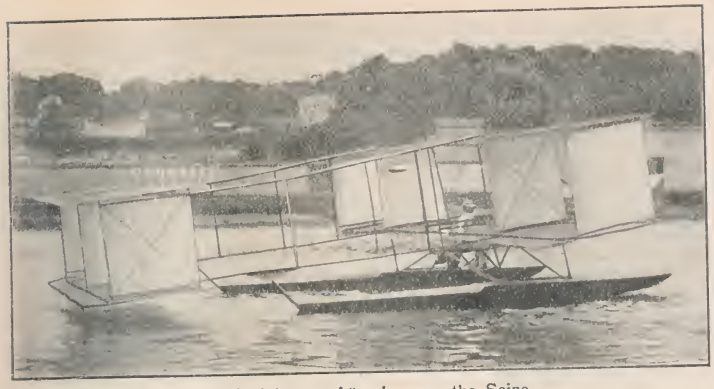
Sir Hiram Maxim built a huge aeroplane at a cost of £20,000. It had a great central plane and many side wings one above the other. Two wooden propellers 17ft. 6in. in diameter were driven by steam, the engine being most cleverly designed to give a large horse-power for a very small weight. This was before the days of the petrol motor. The whole machine weighed three and a half tons. It was mounted on wheels and ran on a mile long railway track, which it only left on two occasions, the engine being stopped immediately it did so. As a flying machine it was not a success, but in building it Sir Hiram Maxim discovered many useful things about the best propellers to use, wind pressure, and the like.

M. Santos Dumont won the prize offered for the first machine which propelled itself through the air carrying a man, and has therefore come to be regarded as the first man to fly in a machine heavier than air which supplied its own motive power. As a matter of fact, however, ten years before he achieved his short twenty-five yards jump—for it was little more than a jump—Ader flew 300 mètres at Satory. His machine was called the *Avion*, and resembled a huge bat. He used two propellers, each with four blades. When this flight was made, on October 14th, 1896, Generals Mensier and Greillon were present, officially representing the French War Office. Their testimony is emphatic as to the distance flown.

In October, 1906, Santos Dumont made a much longer jump, one of 241 feet, but he recognised that his machine was not designed on the right lines, and promptly abandoned that type. He has now evolved a monoplane, but he has not been very successful with it.

During the last two years the development of the aeroplane has been rapid. Although most of the prizes offered have been won by Frenchmen using

Ader's Machine, which flew 300 yards in 1896.



The Archdeacon Aëroplane on the Seine.

machines built in France, there is little doubt that these were actually copies of the Wrights' gliders, photographs of which were sent to France some time before any aëroplane had been built there. In fact, a writer in *La Revue de l'Aviation* of February 13th, 1907, frankly admits that the Ernest Archdeacon glider was a copy of the Wright machine. As this *Revue* is very closely connected with Messrs. Voisin Brothers, who built the glider, this would seem to remove any doubt as to where the credit for the modern type of aëroplane should be given.

The attempt to copy the Wright machine was not altogether successful, and in order to secure equilibrium it was found necessary to add a tail to the Archdeacon glider. Vertical planes were also put between the horizontal surfaces. The Farman machine is practically a copy of the Archdeacon glider with a motor added, and so is the Delagrange aëroplane, so that we actually get back again to Lilienthal *viâ* America. For Chanute copied and improved on Lilienthal's machine. By far the best of his pupils, the Wright brothers, made a careful study of Lilienthal's experiments, and with infinite patience and perseverance evolved the machine which has marked such an epoch in the conquest of the air. An instance of their indomitable determination may be found in the fact that Wilbur Wright actually learnt German in order to be able to study all available records of Lilienthal's work.

It is only fourteen months since Henri Farman flew 820 yards, an achievement which created immense excitement and enthusiasm throughout the world. Since October, 1907, remarkable progress has been made, as is shown below.

The world's records are held by: M. Santos Dumont (first officially recorded flight), M. Farman (first 1,000 metre flight, returning to starting point, and first town to town flight), M. Bleriot (longest monoplane flight), W. Wright (longest flight, with and without passenger, and highest flight). O. Wright holds the American records. Many prizes have been won; about £60,000 worth are still to be obtained.

LIST OF THE MORE IMPORTANT RECORDS SET UP.

		Distance. miles.	yds.	Lgth. of flight. hrs.	min	sec.
1906—Sept. 13.	S. Dumont	—	12	—	—	—
Nov. 12.	,, ...	—	230	—	—	21
1907—Oct. 26.	H. Farman	—	820	—	—	52
1908—Jan. 13.	,, ...	—	1093	—	1	28
Mar. 21.	,, ...	1	430	—	3	31
April 11.	L. Delagrange	2	769	—	6	30
May 30.	,, ...	7	1641	—	15	26
July 6.	H. Farman	—	—	—	20	19
Sept. 6.	L. Delagrange	14	1402	—	29	53
,, 9.	Orville Wright	—	—	1	3	15
,, 9.	,, ,, (and passenger)	3	1684	—	6	0
,, 12.	,, ...	45	—	1	14	20
,, 16.	Wilbur Wright	—	—	—	39	18
,, 16.	,, ,, (and passenger)	—	—	—	2	20
,, 21.	,, ...	56	—	1	31	25
,, 28.	,, ,, (and passenger	—	—	—	11	25
Oct. 2.	H. Farman	25	—	—	44	32
,, 3.	W. Wright (and passenger	36	—	—	55	31
,, 3.	M. Bleriot	3	—	—	4	30
,, 6.	W. Wright (and passenger)	42	—	1	4	26
,, 7.	,, (and lady passenger)	—	—	—	2	8
,, 11.	,, and passenger) ...	50	—	1	9	—
,, 30.	H. Farman	16	First town to town flight			
,, 31.	M. Bleriot	8	—	—	—	—
(First round trip from town to town and back, and monoplane record.						
Dec. 18.	W. Wright	74½	—	1	54	22
,, 31.	,, ...	77	—	2	21	44
	(This flight was really 93 miles.					

Photograph by] [*Topical.*

The Moore-Brabazon Biplane.

A type similar to those of Archdeacon, Farman, and Delagrange.

Photograph by [*Topical.*

M. Farman passing over a village in the first town-to-town flight ever made in an Aeroplane.

As will be seen, the longest flights have been made by the Wright brothers, and in view of their recent exploits no one will now doubt their statement that in 1903 they flew a distance of 850 feet in one minute. So that, three years before the first officially recorded flight made by Santos Dumont, these two young Americans had flown.

The Wright machine has a neater appearance when flying than those of Farman and other French aviators. Although it is actually more roughly finished off than the machines turned out by Messrs. Voisin, it requires great skill in manipulation, as equilibrium is secured by the alteration of the angles of the planes, each independently controlled by the driver. Their action is not automatic. The Wright brothers use motors made in their own motor-bicycle shop, and for some time these caused considerable trouble by constantly breaking down. The two propellers are connected with the motor by chain drives, not a very efficient or reliable method.

The Wrights have arrived at their present model by most careful experiments extending over many years. They were keen and determined, and the machine they have evolved has fully proved that their methodical experiments were well worth while.

The great defect of their machine is that it requires a special starting apparatus. Once touch the ground during a flight and it is helpless. It must either be carted back to the starting machine, or have the latter brought to it. What may be called the Voisin type of machine has wheels beneath it which allow it to start from any flat firm surface of sufficient length to permit of the necessary run before the machine takes the air. The Wright machine will no doubt ere long be similarly equipped. This will necessitate Mr. Wright using a more powerful motor, as the wheels and attachments weigh a hundredweight, and offer considerable resistance to the wind. These wheels probably account for the extra horse-power M. Farman requires on his machine. So accurately can Wilbur Wright control his aeroplane that he is able to land between two lines which he draws on the ground before he starts his flight. He has generally flown in the evening, so that many of his achievements do not go down officially as records, owing to the French Aero Club refusing to take any account of distance covered after sunset. Mr. Wright's record has shown him to be stubborn and tenacious of purpose. This probably accounts for his refusal to alter his times of flight or to attempt a town-to-town journey, which he could, of course, have performed with the greatest

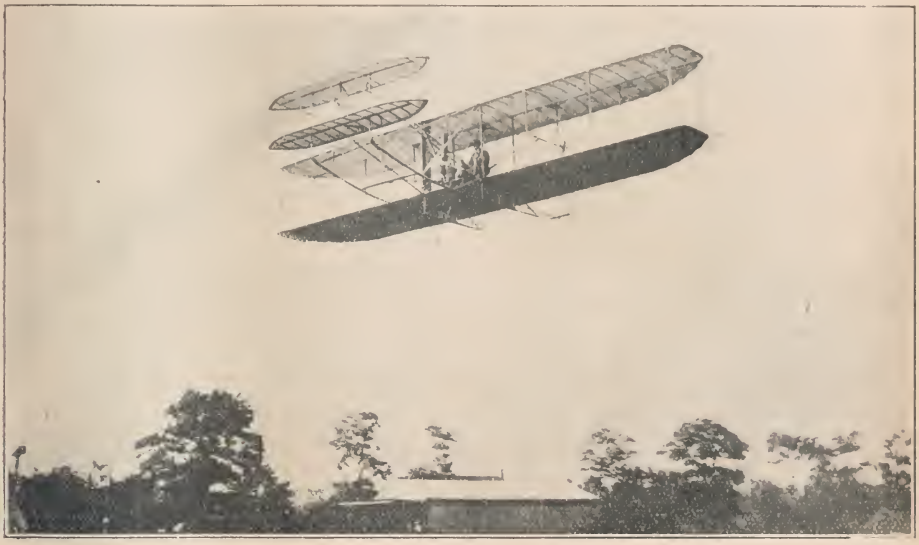
Photograph by [*Topical.*

M. Bleriot, the most successful exponent of the Monoplane, flying from Toury to Artenay.

ease. In consequence, the honour of doing this has gone to Henri Farman, who flew from Chalons to Rheims, a distance of sixteen miles. The day after he did so M. Bleriot, the chief advocate of the monoplane, flew from Toury to Artenay and back — about seventeen miles—landing twice *en route*.

Space allows reference to be made to only the most successful aëroplanes. Experiments and flights are, however, taking place all over Europe and America. Even in England something has been done, although the official efforts of Mr. Cody have only confirmed Continental aviators in their conviction that Britain is hopelessly behind in aëronautical matters.

We cannot leave this subject without some description of the machine which is being built by



Photograph by] [*Topical.*

The Wright Aëroplane ; Mr. Wilbur Wright is seated in the Machine.

M. Serge Bolotoff, a young Russian nobleman, the son of Princess Wiasemsky, although at the time of writing his machine is not finished. Those who have seen it are enthusiastic in its praise, and prophesy that it will achieve the definite conquest of the air. Every part of its mechanism shows the inventive genius of this young Russian, who, although only twenty years old, has already a remarkable record of inventions behind him. No detail of his machine has been too insignificant for special study and design.

The machine is 23 ft. wide, and has three planes, one above the other. These are curved, the angle being altered according to the wind and the rate of flight. The two top planes are horizontal, the two ends of the bottom one bend slightly upwards. They are 6 ft. wide. The ribs are some inches deep about one-quarter of their length from the front, tapering to each end. There is a double covering of canvas silk, one above and one below the ribs. In order to avoid extra wind-resisting surfaces M. Bolotoff has entirely done away with the back supports of the planes. He pivots each rib, at about a quarter of its length from the front, to a steel upright, bracing the two ends of the rib to the upright by wires. This enables the angles of the planes to be readily altered.

The body is torpedo-shaped and fits in between the bottom and the middle planes. It is thirty-three feet long, and is entirely covered with canvas silk. The tail consists of two horizontal steering-planes to control upward and downward movement, and one vertical to steer from side to side. These rudders are so balanced that they return automatically to the central position. They are controlled by the aviator, who sits in the centre of the body. The chauffeur sits immediately in front of him, behind the 100 h.-p. Panhard engine. This drives a two-bladed propeller, which works in the front of the body beyond the planes. It is made of an alloy of aluminium and silver, and has a diameter of 8 feet 8 inches. The machine is mounted on two small motor-car wheels just beneath the engine and a bicycle wheel beneath the tail. The whole weight is 19 cwt.

One great cause of failure in aëroplanes has been the constant stoppages of the light engines used. The

The "June Bug," an American Aeroplane which has been fairly successful.

Panhard in the Bolotoff machine has run in a motor-car and in a motor-boat for eight hours consecutively, without a break. Another source of trouble has been the rapid exhaustion of the fuel. M. Bolotoff has two tanks, in which, if he likes, he can take enough petrol, under pressure, to keep the engine going for six hours. His is the first aeroplane to be fitted with high-pressure petrol tanks.

M. Bolotoff contemplates rising to a considerable height and then gliding forward in a series of long swoops, much in the same way as was done by Maloney in California, who used a balloon in order to get a high start for his glider. The avowed object of the young Russian is to fly the Channel, and he has therefore built his machine more solidly than have aviators hitherto. He has entirely avoided bamboo, and has used steel, birch, and spruce pine, with aluminium joints. In spite of this, owing to careful design, the wind resistance of the struts and body is wonderfully small.

The present aeroplanes have naturally many defects, but they are still just in their infancy. The next two years are sure to show an even greater advance in the methods of constructing them than have the last.

A few of the principal drawbacks of the present machines may be thus summarised. A very light motor is required, and such motors are constantly getting out of order. It is as yet impossible to carry a great deal of fuel, so that their effective range is not large. An enormous horse-power is needed to drive the machine through the air. It is, in fact, out of all proportion to the results achieved. Twenty-five miles is the minimum rate at which they must always go or they will come to the ground. This inability to remain a moment motionless greatly minimises their value as bomb-dropping machines in time of war. They are still to a great extent at the mercy of the wind, and are always in danger of being upset by a sudden gust catching them on one side. If the motor stops there is considerable danger of an awkward landing, although in their case inevitable disaster is not to be feared as it is in the fourth type of machine known as the Helicoptère.

This type in its simplest form consists merely of a small platform to which is attached one or more upright shafts fitted with propellers, which, when revolving, draw the machine up into the air. The advantages of such a machine were perceived some four hundred years ago by Leonardo da Vinci, and constant attention has been given to them since then, but without much practical result.

The Helicoptère has many advantages. It is simple, it is inexpensive to make, it can ascend almost

The most simple form of Helicoptère.

Made by Mr. Williams in America.

vertically, and be quickly clear of any obstacles, it can remain stationary over any given point, and can land safely almost anywhere. Quite outweighing these advantages is its entire dependence upon the engine which works the propellers. Immediately this stops the Helicoptère falls to the earth like a stone. Until an engine is designed so perfect that, whilst fuel lasts, it cannot stop or break down, there is little chance of the Helicoptère being used in a practical way; but once such an engine is available there is little doubt that this form of machine will prove a formidable rival to the aëroplane.

A curious thing about the Helicoptère is that owing to the exceedingly slight resistance of the air there must be at least two propellers, and they must work in opposite directions, otherwise, instead of the propeller lifting the machine, the machine ere long will begin to turn round the shaft: the tail, so to speak, wags the dog.

An interesting development of the Helicoptère idea has been evolved by Mr. Davidson, who has built a machine in which the necessary upward lift is given not by the ordinary two-bladed propellers, but by two large saucer-shaped discs called gyropters. In appearance they are not unlike huge umbrellas. The machine has this great advantage over any other helicoptère, that when the engines stop the gyropters act as parachutes, and float it quietly to earth.

Each gyropter is 26 ft. in diameter, and has 110 blades 8 ft. long, each placed at an angle of from 12 deg. to 15 deg. to the horizontal. The gyropters are fastened to the extremities of a solid framework, there being a distance of 40 ft. from centre to centre. Each has a vertical axle on which it rotates. The lower ends of this are movable, to allow of a certain inclination of the gyropter to secure forward or retarding force. The framework for carrying the blades much resembles that of an umbrella. The gyropters revolve in opposite directions, and the 220 blades have a cutting edge of 1,760 ft. Mr. Davidson reckons that, when spinning at a speed of fifty revolutions per minute, the lift obtained would be enough to raise 10,000 lbs. one foot per second. A special tail, which is automatic in its operation, secures the maintenance of a forward motion at any desired angle to the horizontal. It also ensures lateral equilibrium, although the gyroscopic action of the revolving discs is chiefly relied upon to maintain the absolute equilibrium. Each gyropter is worked separately by a small steam engine, developing 50 h.-p., so that 100 h.-p. is actually required for this machine. It weighs some three tons.

Mr. Davidson's machine is the result of his reading of the law which governs natural flight. He sets it forth thus: "The action which enables bodies heavier than the air to travel through the air is due to the resultant force of two thrusts, acting in almost opposite directions upon the structure or body, which resultant force thereby imparts the necessary travelling motion in accordance with the angle and force of these two thrusts. The first of these is the downward absolutely vertical pull of gravity, due to the weight of the body or structure; the second is the lift exerted in an almost vertical upward direction. The direct result of these two thrusts gives forward or retarding motion of the body according as to whether the angle of the upward lift, or resistance to the direct gravitational fall of the body, is either in advance or to the rear of the vertical."

Mr. Davidson is convinced that his machine will fly; but, as is too often the case with inventors, a lack of funds prevents his bringing the machine to a state when actual practical tests can be made.

Mr. G. Davidson's Gyropter.

LEADING ARTICLES IN THE REVIEWS.

TO THE SLAVS: A PROPHECY AND AN APPEAL.

THE FUTURE GLORIES OF SLAVONIA.

THE *Contemporary Review* publishes as its first article what may be described as a manifesto addressed to the Slavs which, although signed by W. T. Stead, owes its inspiration to an exalted source hinted at rather than revealed. Whatever this may be, there can be no question as to the confidence with which Mr. Stead assures the Slavonic peoples of the grandeur of their future destinies and the earnestness with which he or his unknown inspirer implores them to possess their souls in patience for a time.

THE CINDERELLA OF EUROPE.

The article opens by a declaration that the coming of the Slav into his kingdom is a fact compared with which the fortunes of kings and emperors are as dust in the balance:—

> Of all the great races of Europe the Slavs have received the fewest favours from the fates. Providence has been to them a cruel step-mother. They have been cradled in adversity and reared in the midst of misfortunes which might well have broken their spirit. From century to century they have been the prey of conquerors, European and Asiatic. When, as in Russia, they were able to assert their independence of Tartar and Turk, they could only do so by submitting to an autocrat whose yoke was seldom easy and whose burden was never light. But for this Cinderella of Europe the light is rising in the darkness, and there are not lacking signs that in the future the despised kitchen-maid may yet be the belle of the ball.

THE TUTELARY GENIUS OF THE SLAVS.

In a rapid survey of the past, Mr. Stead claims for Catherine II., although of German birth, the right to be regarded as the tutelary genius of the Slavonic race:—

> Herself a German, she nevertheless appreciated keenly the distinctive genius of the Slavonic race. Russia, the first of the Slavs to become independent, the first also, as she fondly believed, to become cultured, was in her eyes destined to achieve a great historic mission. Russia was to be the elder brother of all the Slavs, the deliverer and the helper of the younger races. Nor was that all. In her more exalted moments she dreamed of making the Slav the link between two continents, the mediator between Europe and Asia, the great bridge between East and West. Towards this end she laboured, often with but little wisdom, but with unswerving instinct. She was baffled by the unfitness of her instruments and the inadequacy of her resources. But despite all disappointment Catherine, judged by her aspirations and even by the comparative success with which she began their realisation, will always rank as one of the greatest rulers of the world. Only now in our day, when the Slavs are awakened all along the line, do men begin to see not only the greatness and the glory of her ideal, but the possibility of its realisation on the lines which she laid down.

THE INSIGNIFICANCE OF AUSTRIAN "ANNEXATIONS."

Instead of magnifying the importance of Austro-Hungarian action in Bosnia, Mr. Stead minimises it. After quoting the figures of the birth-rate, he says:—

> It only needs a rule-of-three sum to demonstrate the inevitableness of Slav ascendency in Eastern and Central Europe. This fact should convince every patriotic Slav that precipitancy is treason and that patience should be the watchword of the hour.
>
> The Slavs alone of the Eastern races can truly say that "Time is on our side." For them to gain time is all important. They can afford to wait. It is irritating, no doubt, that the paw of the Austrian should dig its claws a little deeper into the Servian provinces, but it is an inconvenience as passing, even if it is as annoying, as the measles or the whooping-cough. The dominating fact, every day becoming more supreme, is not the change of the label "Occupation" to the label "Annexation." It is that all day and all night with the undeviating regularity of the movements of the planets in their orbits the surging tide of Slavonian life rises higher and ever higher. The women who fill the cradle are more potent in the end than all the warriors of all the kings.

THE DAYDAWN OF THE SLAV.

Hence they are right who say that the day of the Slav is dawning rosy-red in the ever-filled cradle of the Slavonian home. The sceptre of Empire lies hid in the teeming womb of the Mother. But with patience and unity the triumph of the Slavs will be achieved without any shock of battle. It is enough to keep pouring the new wine of lusty Slavonian life into the worn-out leather bottles of the Austrian realm to secure the ultimate victory. Hence it would be the height of political unwisdom for the Slavs to challenge a conflict with their rivals on the battlefield, when certain victory is assured if they will but await the reinforcements, creating those new battalions of the future, which are night and day being born into the Slavonian world.

A NOTABLE PROPHECY.

The day of cast-iron empires is fast drawing to a close. The new century begins the era of decentralisation and federation. In one form or another the whole vast stretch of country from Petersburg to Prague and from Prague to Adrianople will be covered by a federation or federations of free self-governing States, as peaceful as the Swiss cantons, in which the Slavs, by the sheer force of numbers, will of necessity be in the ascendant. Nor will it be surprising if the despairing effort of the German to stem the tide of destiny in Posen should lead to the addition of the German Polish lands to the federation of the future.

THE WATCHWORD OF THE HOUR.

The chief danger, almost the only serious danger, that threatens to retard the inevitable triumph, is the fatal tendency to anarchy that has ever been the bane of the Slavonian peoples. It was this that ruined Poland. It may postpone indefinitely the coming of the Slav into his kingdom. If we had the tongues of men and of angels we would cry aloud in the ears of all the Slavonian peoples: "In unity is your strength. United you can conquer all your foes. Disunited you will remain the despised and impotent thralls of your neighbours. Peace! Peace among yourselves! Patience and Unity, by these watchwords you will conquer."

THE GOLDEN DAYS TO COME.

If these counsels prevail, then the good seed which Catherine sowed in the dark days of storm and tempest may spring up and ripen for the glorious golden harvest. Then may be fulfilled her majestic vision of the advent of the mighty kingdom of Slavonia, which will represent more than the splendour of ancient Rome; more than the vainly-desired perfection of classic Hellas; more than the would-be Imperialism of ubiquitous England. And the waning starlight of the West may be quenched, absorbed, extinguished, by the undreamt-of magnificence of Eastern Dawn.

THE PROTECTIONIST CONSPIRACY.

CONFESSIONS OF A CONSPIRATOR.

"A CONFEDERATE," writing in the *National Review*, explains with cynical frankness how the Protectionist rump of the Unionist Party proposes to wag the dog.

HOW THE PLOT WAS HATCHED.

"The Confederacy," as the conspirators called themselves, was hatched two years ago by three young Protectionists, who decided that they would make it too hot for any Free Trade Unionist to stay within the Party:—

They met one night over the dinner-table. It was at a private house, and one of the three had drawn up and brought with him a draft set of rules and plan of campaign. It was rough, but after some hours' discussion a workable scheme was evolved, which it was decided to lay before a larger gathering of Tariff enthusiasts the following week. So ended the first Confederacy conclave. At the next dinner there were fifteen present. The draft scheme was submitted, and with few alterations entirely approved. Thus the Confederacy started on its way rejoicing; from that day its numbers have increased rapidly. This, in short, is a correct account of the founding of the Confederacy.

THE ORGANISATION OF THE CONSPIRATORS.

Its programme is simple—political death to every Unionist Free Trader. It is directed by a Council of twelve—annually elected—to whose decrees every new member, on his introduction into the society, pledges himself to bow:—

Once a month, or oftener if necessary, the governing body meet together; reports from constituencies where the Confederacy agents are at work are considered; instructions in reply are issued, and any additional Free Food Unionists that may be brought to light are "marked down." It sometimes happens that information is received that in a certain constituency a Free Food candidate is likely to be adopted. In such instances the Confederacy agent in the county is communicated with, he is put on his guard, and told that the Confederacy is prepared to assist any opposition movement with funds, even to the extent of running a candidate off its own bat, if invited to do so. More than once such tactics have had the desired effect. In many constituencies they are being applied at the present moment.

THEIR PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

It has raised an Election fund, for the pockets of the Protectionist conspirators are as deep as their desire to plunder the people for their trade interests is intense. They are conducting ceaseless propaganda against every Unionist Free Trader now in Parliament:—

But the Confederacy is not alone concerned with a militant campaign where the Unionist member is opposed to the declared policy of the Party. It adopts an educational *rôle* as well. Most of the correspondence on questions of Tariff Reform that is carried on in the Press, many of the articles that appear in monthly periodicals, are the work of its members.

HOPES AND FEARS.

A Confederate says:—

In the opinion of those who have the best means of judging, the Unionist Party at the General Election will have little to boast about as regards its majority. The estimates vary as between thirty and fifty. At the present time there are known to be at least fifteen Free Food Unionists. There are believed to be other "black sheep" who have not yet openly declared themselves as opposed to Fiscal Reform.

They are to be driven from political life:—

As matters stand at present at least fifty-seven Confederates will be returned to Parliament at the next Election—possibly more. At all times, in all seasons, no matter what the opposition, these enthusiasts will press their policy on every conceivable occasion. The Confederacy has decided to stay its hand no longer, and before the new year is many months old it will strike.

Pleasant reading this for Mr. Balfour! But if he does not muster up courage to amputate this insolent tail of his it will utterly ruin his chances of success at the next General Election.

INSURANCE AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT.

SOME PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FROM ABROAD.

MR. HAROLD SPENDER contributes a valuable article on unemployment insurance to the *Contemporary Review*. He thus sums up the results of European experiments:—

The results of the Cologne system seem to show that voluntary insurance against unemployment if applied to workmen individually, even with the help of employers, will produce very feeble results; while the example of St. Gall, in Switzerland, seems to prove that compulsion working on individual workmen is likely to be even less successful.

The examples of Ghent and Antwerp, on the other hand, provide striking examples of comparative success achieved by the community in supporting and encouraging the collective insurance of Trade Unions. But no system exists, save in a few exceptional German workshops, which provides us with any guidance for the establishment of a system of general compulsory insurance worked through employers and with the assistance and co-operation of the trades affected. Such a system, as we have conceived it, would be organised by the municipalities and local councils under the supervision of the State. It would follow the model of the German accident insurance system, and would be accompanied by the formation of labour registries on the Bavarian model. It might start by a large experiment on the Ghent model, but if the workmen outside the Trade Unions are to be included in its benefits, it must necessarily be converted finally into a system of universal compulsion. The contributions would be small and would be levied through the employers on the stamp or book system.

There is no reason why in the long result such a system should not be almost self-supporting. But it is clear that a considerable sum would first be required from the State to tide over the period which would elapse before the contributions of the working classes had built up a fund from which grants could be paid to men out of work. If for a time any other State subsidy were needed, it would probably be best devoted to the assistance of those unorganised and unskilled trades which combine the maximum of poverty with the maximum of unemployment.

Perhaps it is not really "beyond the wit of man" that the inevitable period of unemployment, which comes chronically to the British workman, should be so reorganised as to be a blessing rather than a curse. Like the winter in many parts of the northern world, it might be used as a beneficent period of rest and repair, instead of a cursed period of waste, decay, and despair.

That miracle is largely a question of industrial reorganisation. At the approach of an industrial depression, which can now be foretold with the accuracy of an anti-cyclone coming across the Atlantic, great industries might arrange to spread their work out by means of "short time," or where that was impossible, to give to a section of their men, varying with each depression, a Sabbath period of unemployment for refreshing their energies, and perhaps refilling their minds, so that they should come back to work with new power and force. Such a future could only be realised by a scheme of insurance.

HOW I WOULD REFORM PARLIAMENT.

By Mr. F. W. Jowett, M.P.

Mr. Jowett, one of the most thoughtful of the Labour members, contributes to the *National Review* the result of his observations as to the working of the Parliamentary machine.

As might be expected, not being an old Parliamentary hand, he considers he would reform it altogether. He is equally dissatisfied, not without cause, with the inadequacy of provision for practical debate, and with the lack of security afforded for the proper control of the Executive. On the latter point he is strongly in favour of Lord Esher's suggestion. He says that the House of Commons fails to keep pace with public opinion in regard to legislation, and he sets forth the reasons which lead him to the conclusion that the Executive power of the State would be capable of effecting immediate changes for the public welfare.

Unfortunately, he is convinced that the Executive fails even more grievously to respond to public requirements than the House of Commons. In brief, Mr. Jowett wants to relegate the legislative working of the House of Commons to Committees. He says:—

> Business carried on under the guidance of committees of elected representatives is, on the whole, immeasurably cleaner and more efficiently done than private business is, and its honesty and efficiency is more secure than is the case under a form of bureaucracy such as obtains in State departments.
>
> Relieved of the detailed work and also no longer subject to the same cumbersome methods of dealing with supply, much time would be set free for dealing with private members' business. Committees would be sitting all the year round, keeping in close touch with every branch of the Administration. Every member desirous of taking an intelligent interest in public administration could then find some opening for his services. The full House of Commons should meet in the morning at, say, 10 A.M., and do its work during the day; but the whole business should be so arranged that the meetings of the full Assembly should not clash with the meetings of committees. With the exception of a reasonable interval during the summer or at other times for holidays, the sittings should continue the whole year through and always during the day.

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA.

The *East and the West*, a quarterly, contains an article by the Bishop of Carpentaria on "The Northern Territory of Australia," now transferred to the Commonwealth, or very shortly to be so transferred. This means an area, of much of which very little seems yet known, of over 400,000 square miles, with a population of 1,075—a state of affairs, as is pointed out, which constitutes "a standing temptation to those countries which need an outlet for their population." I particularly notice the Bishop's attitude to the "White Australia" cry. He realises, "as those who do not know the circumstances cannot do," the amount of justification there is for it; but he strongly dissents from the reasons by which the policy is often supported.

Australia will probably try to work the Northern Territory by white labour; she may succeed in this, but the Bishop does not think this likely. If she fails, presumably the only course will be to work the Territory with indented coloured labour, which, he says, surely might be made to work well, especially if it be frankly recognised that dark skins enable men to work in very hot climates where white men cannot work, but are not to mean that their owners are inhumanly treated. The unpeopled and unknown condition of much of Northern Australia, it is insisted, is "an acute danger to the Commonwealth." Much of the land is barren, but much also is fertile and well watered. I infer that the writer thinks the aboriginals should be helped on to this land, an Aboriginal Department established by the Commonwealth Government, and the various religious bodies allowed to supervise the natives and their work. In this way, he thinks, at comparatively small cost, a population of 60,000 could fairly soon be put upon this vast unoccupied territory.

A Pathetic Appeal.

A young man in Newcastle, who had the misfortune when only eleven years old to receive such injuries from a fall as to become a chronic invalid, sends me a very pathetic letter, which I hope will lead some of my readers to send him what he needs. My correspondent, who is now twenty-three years of age, has for the last twelve years been compelled to lie flat on his back in bed, as any attempt to assume a sitting posture causes excruciating pain. He is a labourer's son, who in his enforced leisure is devoting himself to reading and writing, and he has now succeeded in establishing a slight connection with some newspapers, who print although they do not pay for his contributions. After stating these facts, he writes to me as follows:—

> I suffer from decayed bone in the right thumb. Whenever I grip a pen I suffer intense pain. I have tried a typewriter, and find I can work it without being called upon to pay a penalty. My father is only a labourer, and the cheapest of second-hand typewriters is quite beyond the means at my disposal. I thought if I applied to you, perhaps you would insert an appeal in the Review of Reviews, to which some good person might respond. I would be glad of any old typewriter, no matter how dilapidated. As you will understand, the little journalistic work that I do, mainly as a hobby, affords me a great amount of pleasure, and I would not like to have to give it up.

It is possible that some of my readers may have an old typewriter for which they have no further use. If so, I should be glad if they would communicate with me, and I will forward them the address of my suffering correspondent.

In the *Deutsche Revue* for December Professor Otfried Nippold pleads again for the institution of an Academy of International Law at the Hague for diplomatists. The only suitable training for future diplomatists is, he says, the scientific study of International Law, and the influence of such study would be felt in general politics as well.

THE LATE EMPRESS OF CHINA.

MESSALINA, BLUEBEARD, AND IDEAL WOMAN.

DR. E. J. DILLON contributes a fascinating study of the late Empress of China to the *Fortnightly Review* for January.

BEYOND THE DOMAIN OF RIGHT AND WRONG.

In a footnote he tells us, "For revealing to the Japanese the secret treaty between Russia and China, which I published in England, she had several men sawed to pieces," and he adds :—

During her first regency Tsu Hsi, then in the flower of her age, indulged, it is said, in the passions of a Messalina and the cruelty of a Bluebeard, putting several of her obscure favourites to death. *A priori* the story may be true. She had not only no scruples of any sort, but no indwelling source of any. A conscience formed no part of her equipment. She dwelt beyond the domain of right and wrong.

AN IDEAL WOMAN IN HER YOUTH.

Notwithstanding these serious defects, Dr. Dillon maintains that—

Tsu Hsi was not only a commanding personality in her age and country, but she was also endowed with some of the sterling qualities of absolute greatness. Tsu Hsi, native chroniclers tell us, was a girl with the budding charms of an ideal woman. Prepossessing in person, she was so kindly in manner and suave of disposition that she won every heart, persuaded every hearer, disarmed envy and hatred. All who came in contact with her describe her as a fascinating talker. Her language abounded in witty sallies, quaint notions clothed in racy words, embellished with poetic images, bright with bursts of musical laughter. People loved to listen to her, were proud of her notice, and captivated by her smile. While she spoke an intense fire lighted her eyes, kindled her mobile tongue, and as one of her countrymen puts it, "made her lips drop honey."

THE SECRET OF HER POWER.

People of character were drawn towards her despite their will, and clever statesmen were swayed by her despite their intelligence. A magnetic force seemed to go out from her, making all men and even eunuchs serve her. She had also the secret—most precious to a sovereign—of touching the right stops of the human soul for the music, gay or sad, which she wanted to produce. And men, the most serious—like Li Hung Chang and Yuan Shi Kai—thrilled to her magic touch. She appealed with almost equal force to the nobler and to the baser human instincts, and, it must be added with equal readiness, for the qualms of moral scruple never stung her, the be-all and end-all of her nature lying wholly within the realm of the real.

A GREAT RULER.

Dr. Dillon tells with admiration the story of her three Regencies. He vindicates her for the severity with which she dealt with the conspirators who sought her life, and successfully repels the accusation that she was a reactionary. He says :—

When she held the destinies of a fourth of the human race in the hollow of her hand she bore good fortune splendidly. In the new as in the old *rôle*, she was simple, ready, resourceful. She retained her modesty. Success never seems to have intoxicated, nor failure to have demoralised her. In politics, which may be described as the art of the possible, Tsu Hsi, like the world's great statesmen, was an Opportunist.

A PRACTICAL REFORMER.

The Empress hunted down the revolutionary reformers, but, Dr. Dillon says :—

Tsu Hsi remained a Progressive to the end. When Li Hung Chang in her earlier Regency built the first railway there was a loud outcry against the innovation in the country; the censors especially clamoured for their destruction. But Tsu Hsi encouragingly said to Li, "You go on with the railways, and I will look after the censors." And now she ordered the building of new lines to continue. She inaugurated a university in Peking; she extended the rights of domicile conferred on Europeans; she threw open new ports to foreign trade; she permitted steamers to navigate the Yangtse and the Si Kiang; she abolished many abuses in the levying of *likin* or internal duties on foreign goods; she gave a fillip to national education; she improved postal communication; in a word, she made it clear that she, too, was a reformer, but a reformer whose device was *festina lente*.

History will add that Tsu Hsi was a reformer to the end of the chapter. Thus last year she forbade the consumption of opium, abolished the practice of foot-binding, put Mandchus and Chinese on a footing of equality, authorising marriages between them, and adopting the principle of race parity even in the Council of State, to which she appointed three Chinamen and three Mandchus. She also proclaimed the principle of obligatory instruction, and granted provincial autonomy as a stepping-stone to a constitution. Nay, she did away with absolutism by bestowing upon her subjects a constitution which is to be embodied in political institutions after the lapse of nine years. Surely no Chinese Gladstone could have accomplished more than this.

In the *Contemporary Review*, Mrs. L. H. Hoover writes on the late Empress, of whom, on the whole, she thinks well. She says :—

In looking at her reign as a symmetrical whole, which, of course, was something she could never do herself, one must grant that probably in its long history China has never known so strong or so beneficent a figure appear in any dynasty after it had turned toward its decadence.

Women and the Law.

ONE or two articles in the *Westminster Review*, which is not a specially interesting number, have already been referred to. "Ignotus" continues his articles on "The Demoralisation of the Law," opening his seventh paper with the remark that "A painstaking inquiry fails to discover any underlying principle, consistent and logical, in the attitude of the law to women." But, as he shows, it is often much easier upon them than upon men. He remarks that—

The most astonishing thing is that while the magistrates treat women with extreme harshness for carrying on a crusade, not always prudent, we admit, against the disabilities of their sex, the law directly encourages the reprehensible, anti-social habits to which very many of the sex's unworthy members are congenitally prone. A woman cannot be imprisoned for debt. Her property cannot be attached for the payment of debt, if it is legally settled upon her. A wife can leave her husband, and he has no power to compel her to return. The husband has no power to restrain his wife; she can slander and libel to her heart's content; he is responsible, and he alone; even when he has strenuously protested against her misdoings.

Two extraordinary etymologies have recently come under notice. In the *African Monthly* Henry Gaskell remarks :—"It is even said that he whom we know as Abraham was at one time a Brahman, but having left his own country was thenceforth called no Brahman or A-brahman, hence Abraham." And the Anglo-Israelite contention is that our descent from the lost tribes is evidenced by the name Saxons, I-saac's-sons.

THE KAISER INTERVIEW.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR ALFRED TURNER contributes to the December number of the *Deutsche Revue* his views of the famous Kaiser Interview and the relations between England and Germany.

A STORM IN A TEACUP.

It is surprising, he says, that the report of the Kaiser's Interview, which was never intended to appear in the Press as a whole, and which was full of expressions of attachment towards England, and of surprise and regret that he should have been so misunderstood by its people, should have evoked such a "storm in a teacup." This is but one more proof of the power of the Press for evil and the want of common sense in a vast number of its readers.

FRIENDSHIP FOR ENGLAND.

Sir Alfred Turner continues:—

One can understand that the plumes of the small section of the German people who detest John Bull, or profess to do so, were ruffled; one can comprehend that France, the partner in the present *entente cordiale*, or Russia, should have felt annoyance that their hostility to England, to which, at a time when she was in sore straits, they were so anxious to give practical effect, should be laid bare, in such a startling manner, more than eight years later; but that England, who owed it to the German Emperor that in the time of her sorest necessity, a powerful, an irresistible European coalition was not formed against her, beats the wit of man to discover, or rather would do so, were it not a fact that the masses of the English public have become somewhat hysterical and excitable under the influence of a portion of the Press, by which they are guided for the moment; but after this transitory stage, they fortunately recover the possession of their characteristic common sense, through the exercise of which they pause and hold back when it comes to action.

All reasonable people whose eyes are not jaundiced by the

Le Rire, Paris. (Paris.

A Little Peace.

WILLIAM II: "Good Madame Steinheil, you've given me a little peace."

lies of the Yellow Press, and whose heads are not swelled by the disease of Jingoism, must allow that the British nation owes a debt of gratitude to the German Emperor, who, when all looked black with her, refused to join in a step to humiliate her and to render her already great embarrassment intolerable.

KUROPATKIN ON THE PEACE WITH JAPAN.

IN *McClure's*, General Kuropatkin repeats his conviction that the Russian troops would have eventually triumphed in Manchuria if it had been deemed possible to continue the war. An army of a million men well organised, seasoned by fighting, and supplied with officers upon whom he could thoroughly rely, were ready to continue the fight.

Never had Russia set out forces of such strength as at the time when the Portsmouth Treaty was made. Only a fraction of the Russian army had previously been in battle. Yet Japan's dead exceeded in number the whole of her regular army. Japan had begun to weaken, both morally and materially. They had lost heavily among their officers, and in the rank and file. The raw recruits could not in the later battles develop the same power of resistance and dash shown by their earlier comrades. They began to flag in interest and in passion for war. Europe, too, had begun to withdraw financial support. It was not at all to the interest of the European Powers to permit a complete victory by the Japanese. Only one big success on the part of the Russian troops was required to bring about a strong reaction in Japan and among the Japanese troops.

General Kuropatkin goes on to insist that modern Russia must consolidate, not expand, that "all civilisation holds back Russia from the sea." Establishment of friendly relations with England is not only natural, but desirable, for "in the event of a rebellion against England in India, we should be on the side of England."

THE INEVITABLE COMING CONFLICT.

For the future he insists that the twentieth century is bound to bring a terrible conflict in Asia between Christian and non-Christian races. It is imperative for the good of humanity that Russia should be the ally of Christian England against the non-Christian races of Asia. Japan is feverishly augmenting her forces. China is forming a large army on the Japanese model. In a very short time Japan and China will be able to throw into Manchuria an army of more than a million and a half. If directed against Russia these forces may try to wrest from her a considerable part of Siberia, and so reduce her to a second-class Power. He bids all classes of the Russian population to prepare themselves to rise up as one man in defence of the integrity and greatness of his native land. He concludes his interesting series of papers with the words:—

Though crushed and sick in soul over our reverses and heavy losses, we will not be troubled. Through them Russian might is being renewed; from them Russian strength will be developed and I will grow

MR. CARNEGIE ON SOCIALISM.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE, in the *World's Work*, writes on "Socialism *versus* Progress." He takes up the cudgels on behalf of Individualism. As he gives a very wide meaning to Individualism, and a very narrow meaning to Socialism, he has little difficulty in demolishing the latter. He insists that Socialism must either establish equality of wages or retain the present system of inequality.

DANISH LAND REFORM.

He strongly opposes the nationalisation of the land. He does, however, condemn the British landlord system. But he does not think that State ownership is the proper substitute. He advises the people of England to follow the example of Denmark, which not long ago was in the hands of a few owners, and now is owned by 86,000 people:—

> It was all quietly done, one step after another. The country was divided into farms of a certain size and a progressive land-tax levied. For one man cultivating one farm the tax was small. If he had another the tax was much greater upon the second, and so on until additions became prohibitive, the object being to favour the owning of farms by those who cultivated them. The produce of the land is now three times as great as under the former system of large proprietors still existing in the United Kingdom. Denmark's policy has created an independent, prosperous, happy and contented people

11,000,000 VOTES AGAINST HENRY GEORGE.

Mr. Carnegie cites the progress made by the negroes in America. Forty odd years ago there were four millions of slaves owned by other people. In 1900 these former slaves owned, as landlords, 173,352 farms. They leased and cultivated as farmers 762,000 farms. The more than eleven millions of working people and their children settled on the land in America as agriculturists would fight to the death against the exclusive taxation of land proposed by Henry George.

WHAT ABOUT THE PEERS?

Mr. Carnegie, with singular forgetfulness of the existence of the House of Lords, declares that for Britain to follow the Danish precedent, to limit the size and number of farms held by any one owner, and to abolish primogeniture and the law of entail, "is a task easy of accomplishment; it is no experiment, neither is it revolutionary." He recites the inequalities of ownership of land in England, where one-half of the territory is in the hands of only 7,400 individuals: in Scotland, where twelve persons in 1876 held more than a quarter of Scotland, seventy held half, and nine-tenths were held by 1,700 persons.

MR. GLADSTONE'S DILEMMA.

Mr. Carnegie quotes with enthusiasm Mr. Gladstone's reply to Socialism—that it had to meet this query: Did it propose to buy the land or to take it? If the first, it was folly; if the second, it was robbery. To take it, Mr. Carnegie declares, would be a step backward and downward. To pay for it, let any Socialist ask a banker what he would think of issuing Consols for sixteen or more hundred millions sterling, with Consols even now below par. The moment Socialists allow inequality of payment, we are back to our present system. Unequal income means unequal outgo, hence inequalities; or, as Individualists would put it, "healthful variety necessary for the improvement of man in his march upward towards perfection." We wonder what the sweated sempstress, whose "inequality of payment" works out at ½d. an hour, thinks of this "healthful variety"?

The Socialist, Mr. Carnegie repeats, in England to-day should cry out not against private ownership of land, but against there being so few private owners.

ELASTIC INDIVIDUALISM.

Mr. Carnegie then takes up Mr. Snowden's statement of the Socialist idea, and insists that with the one exception of directing taxation to secure all unearned increment of wealth, his Socialistic principles are borrowed from Individualism. For example, Mr. Carnegie objects to the proper rating of site values being pasted over with the Socialistic label, "as if this did not prevail under Individualism throughout our English-speaking race, except in the old home." He equally objects to putting the Socialistic label on an eight hours' day, and describes it as "as flat burglary as ever was committed." Old Age Pensions, again, are the product of the best elements of both political non-Socialistic Parties. In the nationalisation of railways, says Mr. Carnegie, "Individualism has preceded Socialism." Many countries own their railways. It will be observed that Mr. Carnegie stretches the term "Individualism" to cover collective ownership, which is a liberty with language which probably none but millionaires would dare to take.

A PÆAN ON PROGRESS.

Then Mr. Carnegie indulges in a pæan on progress—progress everywhere except in Britain. As regards this country, Mr. Carnegie says:—

> In all English-speaking lands the rule of the people prevails; only in Britain is hereditary privilege allowed to exist and obstruct their rule. Every public office is open to ability. Power is now in the hands of the masses wherever the English language is spoken. Never have the masses made such rapid and substantial progress as in recent years, and never were there within their reach in Britain so many far-reaching improvements in the laws, which, when adopted, will ensure to the masses the advantages already possessed by their own race in other English-speaking lands.

Yet it is under such encouraging conditions that the Socialist appears and insists on discarding the system under which this triumphal march has been made.

As Mr. Carnegie includes the nationalisation of railways under the head of Individualism, the Socialist may well retort that he only wishes a little more of the same kind of "Individualism" applied not to railways alone, but to all other forms of production, distribution, and exchange; and if Mr. Carnegie will support Individualism of that kind, the Socialist will doubtless have no objection to allowing him to call it Individualism.

THE CROSS-CORRESPONDENCE TEST.

MR. G. W. BALFOUR GIVES IT UP.

IN the *Hibbert Journal* for January Mr. G. W. Balfour and Principal John Graham discuss at length the wearisome and confusing Piddington report to the S. P. R. on the cross-correspondence tests. Mr. Balfour admits that the cross-correspondences presented by the different scripts are too numerous and too close to be the result of mere chance. But he frankly confesses himself puzzled. He says:—

The two rival hypotheses seem to me on the whole to afford the most probable explanations of the phenomena of cross-correspondences. One of these attributes the production of the cross-correspondences to the directive agency of the secondary self of one of the automatists (or it may be the secondary selves of more than one co-operating together). According to the other, these secondary selves are passive instruments played upon by intelligences external to them, which there is some *prima facie* ground for accepting as what they represent themselves to be—namely, spirits yet living that once were human beings in the flesh. I am well aware that to many people both these hypotheses will appear utterly fantastic and impossible. To me both seem possible, and neither proved. But I do not see how any number of cross-correspondences, as such, will help us to decide between them.

Principal Graham, of Dalton Hall, Manchester University, inclines to accept the substance of the messages as probably authentic. He says:—

If the curious reader wants to know what news of our life hereafter is vouchsafed by this revelation, the best answer is to exhort to patience and to be cautious in statement. "Myers" and "Hodgson" declare that they are very much more alive than they were on earth, that they are not really dreaming, that they would not desire to come back again, and that they are still, nevertheless, in possession of much at any rate of the memories and attachments of earth; they say that they are still almost as far as we are from the innermost Presence and Counsel of God, but they confirm the claims and sanctions of the religious life. They state that a period of unconsciousness, varying in length, supervenes upon death—a period unusually prolonged in Myers's case; and that after a few years—say half a dozen—the spirit moves in its development too far from earth life to have any further communication with it. Doubtless there are numerous exceptions to this; and we gather that Myers himself is voluntarily staying near us for the sake of the service of our faith.

HAVE ANIMALS SOULS?

YES: BUT SOME MEN HAVE NONE!

THE question and answer summarise Dr. Franz Hartmann's interesting paper in the *Occult Review* for January, entitled "Have Animals Occult Faculties?" Dr. Hartmann says:—

Animals are subject to thought impression and can be acted upon by means of "telepathy," as I have often proved to my own satisfaction by experiments made with a favourite horse of mine, which on certain occasions used to take the road which I willed it to take, without any other indication except my wish and my thought.

Animals have an astral body, and they are capable of forming mental images by means of their thoughts. They are consequently capable of appearing as ghosts after the death of their physical forms, and they may project their thought-bodies to the person or place of which they are thinking. They are, on the whole, more clairvoyant than men or women; they have animal souls like ourselves, and consequently their own psychic or occult faculties and powers, even if they employ them instinctively and without scientific knowledge of the way in which they are employed.

I also have evidence that animals think of their friends, and that their thoughts may reach them; because love can carry the thought-image to any place, however far it may be, and create a mental impression. Animals, especially horses, dogs, and birds, are susceptible to astral impressions. In haunted houses animals often perceive ghosts which are not seen by non-sensitive people.

THE HIBBERT JOURNAL

THE *Hibbert Journal* for January is an exceptionally strong number. Besides the two articles on the cross-correspondences of the S.P.R., noticed elsewhere, Professor W. James and H. R. Marshall deal with related subjects. Professor James describes Fechner's theory of the Earth Soul, and Mr. Marshall discourses on psychotherapeutics, both papers full of material for thought and controversy. The same may be said of Miss Scudden's exultant proclamation that Socialism triumphant will be the translation into terms of social efficiency of the deepest and most mystical law of spiritual being—renunciation and sacrifice. The Bishop of Tasmania states the case against using the Old Testament as a moral text-book, and the Rev. R. Roberts, late Chairman of the Bradford Education Committee, makes a vigorous attack upon the theory that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ of God. Mr. Roberts is described as a Congregationalist Minister—but his doctrine seems to be Unitarianism pure and simple. Dr. Keyser expounds "the message of modern mathematics to theology." Miss Bartlett describes the system of Probation and Children's Courts as she found them in Italy. The rest of the journal is well up to the mark, full of solid matter written by strenuous thinkers for not less strenuous readers.

OCCULTISM IN THE MAGAZINES.

IN the *Occult Review* for January, Lady Archibald Campbell writes a charming paper concerning fairy Scotland. The editor reviews appreciatively Andrew Lang's "Maid of France," and Mr. Baker pays a tribute to the memory of two notable English astrologers of the seventeenth century. There is a pitiful ghost story, which is told as if it were true, concerning the ghost of a little girl four years of age, who had died in a delirious fever brought about by her parents' anger because she had taken and, it was thought, hidden, a ruby ring belonging to her mother. The child protested that it had fallen down a hole. She could not point out the hole, and died begging to be forgiven. For years the ghost of the child was heard and seen sobbing and wailing and tearing with her little fingers at one particular spot on the carpet. At last a visitor arrived who had the common sense to suggest that the floor should be taken up, and there, as might have been expected, the ring was found. After this the child troubled them no more. There are in the same number three letters from correspondents who have stayed in the House of Horror which Andrew Merry described in the December number. It is a wonder how Andrew Merry contrives to live and thrive and bring up a family in a castle so full of grisly tenants.

HOW I KNOW THAT THE DEAD RETURN.

By W. T. STEAD.

THE *Fortnightly Review* publishes an article under the above heading, which is described as a record of personal experience. Mr. Stead begins by asking the reader to imagine what Europeans would have thought if, owing to continuous adverse winds or strong ocean currents, none of the discoverers of America had been able to return to the Old World. They might have peopled the New World, but in the absence of all communication with Europe everyone would have concluded they were dead. If after centuries their descendants had by means of wireless telegraphy succeeded in sending messages across the Atlantic, such communications would have had to contend with exactly the same incredulity with which messages from the dead are received to-day. Modern spiritualism, Mr. Stead contends, is the equivalent to Marconi's discovery, and he proceeds to describe the messages which he has received which have led him to say that he knows the dead return.

HIS FIRST EXPERIENCE.

His first experience, which came to him through his own automatic handwriting, was preceded by—

the appearance of the deceased in bodily form twice repeated on fulfilment of a promise made before death. This was followed up by the writing of messages, attested first by an allusion to a pet name that seemed to reduce the message to nonsense, and, secondly, by recalling to the memory of her friend with the utmost particularity of detail an incident which that friend had forgotten.

Telepathy even from the unconscious mind is, Mr. Stead points out, excluded in the case of messages which foretell events that had not happened, which were not expected to happen, but which afterwards did happen as predicted. Of this Mr. Stead gives two instances, the latter of which—a prediction of death twelve times repeated in the course of as many months—he regards as about the best authenticated case of a definite prediction literally fulfilled on record.

FOUR PROMISES FULFILLED.

The following is Mr. Stead's narrative of his experience with a friend who kept her promises after death :—

She promised, in the first place, that she would use my hand, if she could, after death, to tell me how it fared with her on the other side. In the second place, she promised that, if she could, she would appear to one or more of her friends to whom she could show herself. In the third place, she would come to be photographed, and fourthly, she would send me a message through a medium, authenticating the message by countersigning it with the simple mathematical figure of a cross within a circle.

E. M. did all four. (1) She has repeatedly written with my hand, apparently finding it just as easy to use my hand now as she did when still in the body.

(2) She has repeatedly appeared to two friends of mine, one a woman, the other a man. She appeared once in a dining-room full of people She passed unseen by any but her friend, who declares that she saw her distinctly. On another occasion she appeared in the street in broad daylight, walked for a little distance, and then vanished. I may say that her appearance was so original it would be difficult to mistake her for anybody else.

(3) She has been photographed at least half a dozen times after her death. All her portraits are plainly recognisable, but none of them are copies of any photographs taken in earth life.

(4) There remains the test of a message accompanied by the sign of a cross within a circle. I did not get this for several months. I had almost given up all hopes, when one day a medium who was lunching with a friend of mine received it on the first attempt she made at automatic writing. "Tell William not to blame me for what I did. I could not help myself," was the message. Then came a plainly but roughly drawn circle, and inside it the cross. No one knew of our agreement as to the test but myself. I did not know the medium, I was not present, nor was my friend expecting any message from E. M.

SPIRITS PHOTOGRAPHED.

Mr. Stead tells the story of how he obtained a photograph of a Boer Commandant in London of whose existence either in this world or the next he was totally unaware. Mr. Stead says :—

Let me disarm any sceptical reader by admitting that nothing is more easy than to fake bogus spirit photographs, and further that an expert conjurer can almost always cheat the most vigilant observer. The use of marked plates, which I handle, expose, and develop myself, no doubt affords some protection against fraud. But my belief in the authenticity of spirit photographs rests upon a far firmer basis than the fallible vigilance of the experimenter.

That evidence is the identification by at least three persons of the portrait of an invisible person produced by the photographer, who had no means of knowing of the existence of any such person.

A PERSONAL CONFESSION OF FAITH.

Mr. Stead concludes his article as follows :—

One last word. For the last fifteen years I have been convinced by the pressure of a continually accumulating mass of first-hand evidence of the truth of the persistence of personality after death, and the possibility of intercourse with the departed. But I always said, "I will wait until someone in my own family has passed beyond the grave before I finally declare my conviction on this subject."

Twelve months ago this month of December I saw my eldest son, whom I had trained in the fond hope that he would be my successor, die at the early age of thirty-three. The tie between us was of the closest. No one could deceive me by fabricated spurious messages from my beloved son.

Twelve months have now passed, in almost every week of which I have been cheered and comforted by messages from my boy, who is nearer and dearer to me than ever before. The preceding twelve months I had been much abroad. I heard less frequently from him in that year than I have heard from him since he passed out of our sight. I have not taken his communications by my own hand. I knew him so well that what I wrote might have been the unconscious echoes of converse in the past. He has communicated with me through the hands of two slight acquaintances, and they have been one and all as clearly stamped with the impress of his own character and mode of thought as any of the letters he wrote to me during his sojourn on earth.

After this I can doubt no more. For me the problem is solved, the truth is established, and I am glad to have this opportunity of testifying publicly to all the world that, so far as I am concerned, doubt on this subject is henceforth impossible.

THE personality of Clare of Assisi is the subject of a charming study in the *Oxford and Cambridge Review* by Sir Home Gordon.

"THERE ARE NONE SO BLIND AS THOSE WHO WILL NOT SEE."

THE REPLY TO DR. SIMON NEWCOMB.

IN the *Nineteenth Century* there is an article by Dr. Simon Newcomb, the eminent American scientist, upon Modern Occultism. It is an amazing production, a monumental display of the extraordinary blindness of scientific men to phenomena which are so plentiful that they almost run up against you in the street. Dr. Newcomb tells us that half a century of occasional study, coupled with reading the best he could find in support of occultism, has landed him in a condition of such scepticism that he does not even think that telepathy is proved! It is true that he appears to have confined his studies to the proceedings of the Psychical Research Society, and he admits that the society for the past ten years has done nothing towards elucidating the subject. That, however, is only a confirmation of what I have frequently declared, that the Society for Psychical Research has become a society for obstructing psychical research. As to Dr. Newcomb's belief that no cases are known which cannot be accounted for by coincidence, inaccurate observation, or failure of memory, I have only one remark to make. In the *Fortnightly Review* this month I record one case of telepathy for the accuracy of which I vouch. It is as follows:—

A lady friend of mine, who can write with my hand at any distance with even more freedom than she can write with her own, had been spending the week-end at Haslemere. Late on Monday afternoon I wished to know if she had left the country, and placing my pen on the paper I mentally asked if she had returned to London. My hand wrote as follows:—

"I am sorry to tell you I have had a very painful experience, of which I am almost ashamed to speak. I left Haslemere at 2.27 p.m. in a second-class carriage, in which there were two ladies and one gentleman. When the train stopped at Godalming the ladies got out, and I was left alone with the man. After the train started he left his seat, and came close to me. I was alarmed, and repelled him. He tried to kiss me. I seized his umbrella and struck him, but it broke, and I was beginning to fear that he would master me, when the train began to slow up before arriving at Guildford Station. He got frightened, let go of me, and before the train reached the platform he jumped out and ran away. I have the umbrella."

I sent my secretary up with a note saying merely I was very sorry to hear what had happened, and added, "Be sure and bring the man's umbrella on Wednesday." She wrote in reply: "I am very sorry you know anything about it. I had made up my mind to tell nobody. I will bring the broken umbrella, but it was my umbrella, not his."

This is only one of the multitudes of similar instances in which messages have been received by me through my automatic hand from friends who are sometimes hundreds of miles away, and whose physical consciousness was unaware that they were in communication with me. By what conceivable coincidence or other theory does Dr. Newcomb account for that?

MR. PODMORE ON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

Is Mrs. Eddy going to convert Mr. Podmore? It almost seems as if the Sadducee of the S.P.R. was at last to be confounded by the High Priestess of the new faith. In an article on the Pedigree of Christian Science which he contributes to the January *Contemporary Review*, Mr. Podmore says:—

The broad fact remains that thousands of persons, whose honesty probably in all cases, whose intelligence in many cases, it would be difficult to challenge, are convinced that they were ill and are now well; that for years they were feeble, wretched, and in constant pain, and that they now feel strong, healthy, and happy. Not all the doctors in the world can overthrow testimony of this kind.

Her followers testify that release from bodily suffering is but a small part of the benefit which they owe to God and Mrs. Eddy. They speak of restored harmony in the household, of business difficulties smoothed away, of a nobler purpose in life, of spiritual uplifting, of peace and joy and release from fear.

Other prophets have worked miracles in their lifetime, and the religion which they founded has been based on the memory of their mighty works. Mrs. Eddy has taught her followers to work miracles for themselves. The religion which she has founded is attested by daily miracles. This is ultimately the test *stantis aut cadentis Ecclesiæ*. Her church will stand so long as the sick and the unhappy can find there the healing and comfort which they have failed to find elsewhere. It will fall when it shall have served its purpose, and the world at large has learnt the secret of which Mrs. Eddy and her predecessors have caught imperfect glimpses.

If Mrs. Eddy converts Mr. Podmore she will have wrought the most inconceivable of miracles. After this who can wonder? as he tells us—

The sect is represented at the present time by over 1,100 "Churches" or Societies, of which thirty-seven are in this country; and the number is increasing almost daily. There are over 4,000 Christian Science practitioners—*i.e.*, healers, of whom 101, 138 women and twenty-three men, practise in these Islands. The Mother Church in Boston is a stately edifice, erected at a cost of £400,000. Many other towns in the United States can boast large and handsome churches dedicated to the creed. The professing church members in America number some 60,000. But of the gospel of the movement—"Science and Health, with Key to the Scriptures"—no fewer than 440 "editions" have been published, and upwards of half a million copies sold. These figures are the more remarkable when we remember that in its cheapest form the book costs 12s. 6d.

GARDEN CITIES, to judge from the opening paper in *Garden Cities and Town Planning*, are not confined to England. In Saxony there is one, in formation at any rate, at Helleran, near Dresden. It is now to be reached by electric tram from Dresden, and the Dresden Art Works are favouring it, as they have not room enough in the city itself for their works. The writer of the paper, who is chairman of the German Garden City Association, says that for the same rent as he would pay for a barrack-like and altogether inferior tenement in Dresden a workman can have in Helleran a pleasant house all to himself, with arrangements for a bath, and two upstairs bedrooms and a garden. But it is not desired to make Helleran a purely working class community, and in the plan plenty of room is allowed for country houses for wealthier people.

"HOW TOLSTOY IMPRESSES ME."

By Mr. W. Dean Howells.

In the *North American Review* the well-known American author, Mr. Dean Howells, takes the stand and testifies to his indebtedness to Count Tolstoy with the ecstatic exuberant gratitude of a convert fresh from the Penitent Form.

THE THREE GREATEST MEN OF LAST CENTURY.

Mr. Howells says :—

The century in which Tolstoy mostly lived and mostly wrought had among its many great names few more memorable than his, if it had any. There was Napoleon and there was Lincoln, and then there was Tolstoy in an order which time may change, though it appears to me certain that time will not change the number of these supreme names. The work of Lincoln was no more final than the work of Napoleon; and like Napoleon's and like Lincoln's, Tolstoy's work has been without finality. So far as I can perceive, it has even been without effect in a civilisation which calls itself Christian, bu which has apparently been no more moved by the human sou as it was in Tolstoy, than by the divine soul as it was in Jesus.

HOW TOLSTOY CONVERTED MR. HOWELLS.

Speaking of the effect produced upon him by Count Tolstoy's writings, Mr. Howells says :—

His literature, both in its ethics and æsthetics, or its union o them, was an experience for me somewhat comparable to the old-fashioned religious experience of people converted at revivals. Things that were dark or dim before were shone upon by a light so clear and strong that I needed no longer to grope my way to them. Being and doing had a new meaning and a new motive, and I should be an ingrate unworthy of the help I had if I did not own it, or if I made little of it. The voluntary and involuntary allegiance I had been paying to the truth which is beauty and beyond art, and to an ideal of goodness and loveliness in the commonest and cheapest lives, was here reasoned and exampled in things beyond refutation or comparison. What I had instinctively known before, I now knew rationally. I need never again look for a theme of fiction; I saw life swarming with themes that filled my imagination and pressed into my hands.

HOW THE MIRACLE WAS WORKED.

The illumination or conversion of Mr. Howells was wrought by the reading of "Anna Karenina." He says :—

The effect was as if I had never read a work of the imagination before. Now for the first time I was acquainted with the work of an imagination which had consecrated itself, as by fasting and prayer, to its creative office and vowed itself to none other service than the service of the truth. Here was nothing blinked or shirked or glossed, nothing hidden or flattered, in the deepest tragedy of civilised life. It was indeed the old Seventh Commandment business, not only not treated as the French treat it, but rightly placed as to the prime fact in its relation to all the other experiences of a sinning and agonising soul.

HIS SECRET AND HIS SERVICE.

The secret of Tolstoy lay in his supreme capacity to see the fact clearly and his not less supreme ability to describe it accurately. Mr. Howells says :—

When he had recognised and appropriated the principle that to see the fact clearly by the inner light, and to show it as he saw it, was his prime office, all other things were added unto Tolstoy. In the presence of his masterpiece, you forget to ask for beauty, for style, for colour, for drama; they are there, so far as they are not of naughtiness, in such measure as no other novelist has compassed. Every other novelist, therefore, shrinks and dwindles beside him.

So much for his secret. What is the service he has rendered mankind? Mr. Howells says :—

He has given many of his readers a bad conscience, and a bad conscience is the best thing a man can have. It may be the best thing that the world can have. At any rate, it can never be the same world it was before Tolstoy lived in it.

The article, although able and interesting, is a trifle hyperbolical. Take, for instance, this paragraph. Referring to Count Tolstoy's proclamation of his adhesion to Christ's Gospel, Mr. Howells says :—

The event, one of the greatest in the history of mankind, has been without perceptible effect in civilisation. On this side the teaching and the living of Tolstoy have been a failure so utter, so abject, that the heart sickens in considering it.

DELANE, OF "THE TIMES."

There is such an interesting little paper in the *Cornhill* upon Delane, by one of his former leader-writers, the Dean of Canterbury, that I cannot forbear to quote from it. The writer says :—

Perhaps the first and most important point to be mentioned about Mr. Delane and his methods is that he maintained an absolute mastery of the whole of the paper in all its details. He controlled with the utmost thoroughness every branch of it.

No one, while Delane was editor of the *Times*, could obtain the insertion of articles which he had written of his own motion or at the suggestion of others. Even when the Dean, at the suggestion of a highly distinguished personage, wrote an article and sent it in to Delane, it was at once returned, with one of the great editor's inimitable notes :—

I return you this article, because it is, I assure you, essential that whatever is to appear in the *Times* should proceed from the initiative of whoever holds my place, and not from that of any other person, however highly esteemed. The effect of any divergence from this principle would be to deprive your contributions of any value, and to prevent their being accepted as embodying the opinions of the *Times*, which must, believe me, be those of no other than—Yours faithfully,

John T. Delane.

Delane's method of editing was, of course, "infinitely laborious." And there was one qualification for it which was indispensable—an adequate acquaintance with every field of the varied human life reflected in the paper. This acquaintance, says the Dean, Delane enjoyed :—

He spoke of all subjects of consequence as involving deep human interests, and he treated them, and helped us to treat them under that aspect. In a word, he maintained as an editor, under whatever strain and whatever provocation, the part of a great gentleman, and it was a gentlemanly as well as a literary education to work under him.

What Delane would have said to slipshod modern writing the Dean does not say. He would not allow, for instance, marriages or races "to take place": a marriage must be "solemnised" and a race "run." He was very considerate if a subordinate were ill or in domestic trouble; but a man must do the work given him, and do it well, or else Delane had no place for him.

HAVE WE IMPOVERISHED INDIA?

No: QUITE THE CONTRARY.

THE *Asiatic Quarterly Review* contains two papers that are of special value at the present time. One, by R. Carstairs, treats of the training of poor British children in India—and remarks that the British community in India is a community of poor men. Of the 120,000 bread-winners, 70,000 are soldiers. Of the remaining 50,000 the great part live from hand to mouth. Service is the lot of the resident British in India—service under the State, or great Companies, or private employers.

REDUCED THE NUMBER SUBMERGED.

The other paper is on the wealth and progress of India, by Charles McMinn, wherein he contrasts "facts and fictions." He says that the evidence of many travellers of all races is to the effect that the people of India were always poor, though kings were rich. About a century ago the Abbé Dubois said that for about three months of the year almost three-fourths of the inhabitants of the peninsula were on the verge of starvation. Montesquieu said that in India there are none but the wretches who pillage and the wretches who are pillaged. This was in 1748, in the days of the Great Mogul, when another French writer lamented that since the Mogul took the country the Indians have nothing which they can call their own. Now, in four congested districts, the official statement is, one-fourth of the population have not a sufficient supply of food throughout the year. "The improvement in the century is enormous; three-fourths were then submerged, now one-fourth." Industry has improved. The *Bengali*, of October 24th, stated, "The poorest ryot melts enough silver to make his wife and children a few trinkets."

IRRIGATED DROUGHTY LANDS.

Mr. McMinn declares that much undue partiality was shown by tariffs to Indian products prior to 1805 and later. The canals and railways made by the Government or guaranteed Companies have been, all excepting two canals and one railway, a great commercial success, and still greater industrial boon. Over fifteen million acres there is now the certainty of harvest which never was before, for they are watered from perennial canals. Sir Henry Cotton has said, "weaving and spinning have become extinct"; yet the exports of jute, cotton and other fabrics in 1906 were nineteen million pounds, four times as much as they ever were under the Moguls.

INCREASED THE PEOPLE'S WEALTH.

The tea grown in India by English companies with English capital pay to the half-million labourers more than three millions sterling. And "such comfortable, well-fed, lightly worked, healthy, merry working people I have not seen anywhere else in the world." The import of bullion, metals, piece goods, railway materials in 1907 was 9s. 9d. per head, in 1872 3s. 10d. per head. The amount of Government paper held by Indians has risen from 72·3 million rupees in 1834 to 548·3 million rupees in 1906. Mr. McMinn somewhat cuttingly remarks:—

> The wealth of India has enriched many. Two Greeks, an Armenian, and a Hebrew gentleman have been recent millionaires from India; but not an Englishman has amassed even half a million in the century past; about Scotchmen, they know best. The millionaire merchants of India, at Calcutta, Bombay, Benares, Jabalpur, Muttra, are nearly all Indians. May they flourish and multiply!

Under the Moguls the salary of Bengal, apart from perquisites, was three lacs, about four times the present rate. In silk, cotton, tobacco, indigo, Indian cultivation was a failure seventy years ago, and is now unless propelled by Europeans with unceasing effort. The trade of India is increasing with great rapidity. During the last twenty-five years its progress was 208 per cent., while that of the United States was only 170

MADE THE PEOPLE SOBER.

The land revenue is very moderate. Mr. McMinn thinks it is about 10 per cent., probably. The rent taken by former Indian Governments or their agents varied from 45 to 75 per cent., excepting when the benevolent Akhbar limited it to one-third. The tax on imported spirits was a century ago about 4 annas per gallon. It has been raised to 7 rupees per gallon. The result has been an immense improvement in the sobriety of India. The writer firmly believes that English administration has been the main cause of India having become a sober country.

Great, says Mr. McMinn, have been the mutual benefits conferred by England and India upon each other. Reciprocity made their tariffs tolerant and benignant. One great lesson has been taught by the Hindu to the Christian—toleration. The whole article, of some forty-six pages, is a careful exposure of recent mis-statements, and certainly puts the case for England in India in a much better light.

SAMPLES OF THE DISLOYAL PRESS.

"A Loyalist" in the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* gives selections from the *Free Hindustan*, published monthly in New York City, U.S.A. He quotes the following statements: "Famine in British India is the chronic disease. Its cause is not want of rain, but British plunder." Hindu patriots have been transported for life because "they were the originators of a steamship company which flourished within a year with such success that the monopoly of the British Steamship Company was hampered." "The British educational policy in Hindustan is to keep the people in ignorance." "The British Government in Hindustan is the cause of our moral degeneration." "The British Government deliberately tries to demoralise its subjects by encouraging them to indulge in opium and strong drink." "The British Government has already imprisoned several temperance speakers." "A Loyalist" adds, "The patriotic scribe lays the evil of the system of infant marriage at the door of the British Government!"

INDIAN REFORMS: A HINDU VIEW.

MR. S. M. MITRA, writing in the *Nineteenth Century*, pooh-poohs the demonstrations of Indian sentiment favouring Lord Morley's reforms. He suggests

Hindi Punch.] [Bombay.

In Jack-boots.

"We cannot govern India in jack-boots. There must be progressive concession towards reasonable and moderate claims."—*The Times.*

BOY M-RL-Y: "Heavy boots, old-fashioned wear, sir. Will you try this lighter pair?"

MR. ANGLO-INDIAN BUREAUCRAT: "H'm!"

that they have been got up under the influence of the dread of deportation without trial. His positive suggestion is that the native to be appointed on the Executive Council of the Viceroy should be a Native Prince, and that Lord Morley should order the return of all cases of assault by Europeans on the natives of India, and make an example of even one European offender. If he did so, he would receive more blessings from India than for all the reforms put together. Let a European be deported without trial and India would be convinced of British impartiality. The writer points out how the Indian soldier in the army of a Native Prince may in time become the commander of that army, but the Indian who joins the British service will have to spend his days under the youngest English subaltern. The writer also asks for the regulation of the press rather than its possible suppression at any moment.

THE *Girl's Own Paper* opens with a story by Miss Mary E. Wilkins, which, though pretty, is not at all up to the standard of this writer's former short stories. An article appears on young animals at the Zoo; and Dr. Emil Reich continues his articles on the English girl of to-morrow.

"OUR MANACLED FLEET."

THE article in *Blackwood's Magazine* for January on "Our Manacled Fleet," by an Admiral with fifty-one years' service, is one more plea for some form of conscription in England, at any rate for abolishing the unfairness of allowing nine-tenths of our young men to shirk their duty, while the patriotic tenth bears the whole burden of national defence. The writer thinks that to have withdrawn so many small cruisers from foreign stations has been a mistake; and as for the much-lauded "scrapping" of a large number of our less efficient cruisers, this had to be done in order that the men in them might be used to man the battleships—an arrangement that must always continue unless we make up our minds to keep an armed force large enough to render hopeless an invasion by any such number of troops as could be transported across the North Sea. Moreover, our battleships, now mainly used on coast defence, were not built for coast defence, and if they are kept "manacled to our shores" because our young men are not made to do their duty, we shall certainly be shorn of many of our

Westminster Gazette.]

A Scare-Party in Wonderland.

THE BLUE QUEEN: "Your Navy isn't half large enough; you must spend *millions* more on it!"

THE RED QUEEN: "And you must have a million men on land ready to meet the enemy!"

MAD HATTER: "And I'll show you how to do it!"

JOHN BULL: "Is everybody gone mad?"

possessions the next time we are involved in a European war. And only the insanely optimistic, the writer thinks, can imagine that we have done with such wars for ever.

IN *Fry's Magazine* the chief articles deal with pike-fishing for women, a sport the writer thinks will steadily grow in popularity among sportswomen; with winter cruising small yachts, which, with a thoroughly seaworthy boat, a snug cabin, and a good seaman for company, may be a very pleasant way of spending winter week-ends; and with ibex-hunting in Baltistan, an article by a lady who accompanied her husband on a shooting expedition.

THE DEPORTED INDIAN LEADERS.

A NEW chapter of a different kind from that described by Lord Morley was opened in India on December 11, when, at a single sitting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council, the Summary Justice Bill was passed into law. It deprives accused persons both of the right to be heard before a magistrate and of trial by jury, and empowers a bench of three High Court judges to try the case, thereby going beyond the provisions of any other Coercion Act known to the British Empire. It might have been thought that, having provided themselves with these unprecedented powers, the Government of India would have no further use for Regulation 3 of 1818, under which any person in British India can be arrested and deported without trial or charge. Not so, however. Within a few hours of the passing of the Crimes Act the old Regulation was put in force against nine Bengalis, who were immediately removed from the province. The portraits here given are of the two most prominent victims. It is unfortunate for the Government that they happen to be men of remarkable personality and of the highest repute.

Aswini Kumar Dutt is the most influential Hindu in Eastern Bengal. He is a lawyer and an educationist, and proprietor of an important college at Barisal. For

Photograph by Hop Sing and Co. [Calcutta

Aswini Kumar Dutt.

many years past he has been the acknowledged head of his district, the leader in all public causes, a striking example of that personal ascendency which, though not uncommon in India, is seldom attained in the West. Aswini Kumar Dutt is looked upon as an ardent Nationalist, but a determined opponent of all violence. He has been for the past three years the soul of the Swadeshi-boycott movement in Eastern Bengal.

Krishna Kumar Mitra is a respected minister of the Brahmo Somaj in Calcutta, and editor of the vernacular weekly *Sanjibani*, in the columns of which he has consistently advocated the Moderate policy and condemned the propaganda of violence. As professor in the City College (a Brahmo institution) and a leading temperance and social worker, he

Photograph by Hop Sing and Co. [Calcutta.

Krishna Kumar Mitra.

wields an immense influence among the student community of Bengal. Like Aswini Babu, he is a resolute boycotter—and here, no doubt, is the chief reason for the resort to the deportation ordinance, which is expressly designed for persons against whom even the police are unable to procure evidence.

"A Possible Settlement"?

IN the *Nineteenth Century* Lord Stanley of Alderley gives this temperate advice :—

When we are near a possible settlement we should do our utmost to promote it. If Mr. Runciman will come to a definite and clear understanding with the Archbishop and his friends—and I think they are not now very far apart—let him then seek counsel with the County Council Association presided over by Lord Belper, and the Education Committee's Association, which represents urban authorities. If these great bodies interested in the administration of education give him their support, he will, I think, find the great majority of the Nonconformists not irreconcilable, and the militant Churchmen who control Convocation, and the Church Council, will be found not really to represent the bulk of the laity of the Church of England.

The Comtesse de Franqueville opposes a compromise tooth and nail as breaking faith with the dead, and, worse, breaking faith with the Church of England.

THE CRISIS IN THE NEAR EAST.

THE AUSTRIAN AND THE JESUIT IN BOSNIA.

MR. MIL. R. IVANOVITCH, writing in the *Fortnightly Review* on "Europe and the Annexation of Bosnia and the Herzegovina," says :—

I have travelled through these countries. I have been thrice to Bosnia and Herzegovina, and I know most of the leading men in Bosnia, Servia, Herzegovina, and Croatia. I can therefore assert categorically, on the strength of personal knowledge and acquaintanceships, that all the alleged "Pan-Serb" movement, of which Baron von Aehrenthal makes so much use in his Parliaments and in the Press to justify his violation of the Treaty of Berlin, is simply an invention of his own agents scattered in crowds over South Austria, as well as in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and, above all, in Montenegro and Servia.

He bears testimony to the strenuous anti-Orthodox propaganda carried on in these provinces :—

From the date of the Occupation the Catholic Church has been the mark of special favours. When Mgr. Strossmayer incurred suspicion by his "Yougo-Slav" views, Austria induced the Vatican to remove him from his post and substituted her own *protégé*, Mgr. Stadler, as "Apostolic Delegate for the Slav countries of the Balkan Peninsula." The object of this designation was to assert her position as protectress of Catholicism in all these districts. At the moment of the Occupation the Catholics, with the exception of a few convents, only possessed one church, one school, and one parochial establishment in the two provinces ; to-day, Catholic churches are springing up from end to end of the country, even in the towns where there is no Catholic population. In 1903 there were 179 ; and new ones are being built every day. Religious fraternities swarm under the shelter of the churches. Twelve monasteries, eleven convents, eleven colleges, and seven so-called philanthropic institutions, house and train the devout champions of the Faith. Clerical administration is in the hands of four bishops, 194 parochial clergy, and 800 monks. In order to denationalise the Serbs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Imperial and Royal Apostolic Government seeks first to convert them. The latest stage in the *Drang nach Osten* is being accomplished by Jesuits and Franciscans. This proselytising policy is vigorously pursued all along the line.

"Britannicus," writing in the *North American Review* for December, thus sums up the net results of Baron D'Aehrenthal's *coup* :—

It is enough for the present that Austria by a single stroke should have outraged Slav sentiment both in Russia and the Balkans, should have torn up in her own interests a great international compact, should have estranged the confidence of Western Europe, and should have dealt the new *régime* in Turkey a staggering, it may be a fatal, blow. These and the annexation of the two provinces, and a new consciousness of capacity for the diplomatic initiative, are the outstanding results of her recent *coup*.

THE BULGARIANS AND THEIR IDEAL.

In the *North American Review* Mr. Svetozar Tonjoroff thus defines the aims and objects of the Bulgarians :—

The Treaty of San Stefano accomplished its moral purpose, despite its summary abrogation. It had created the ideal toward which the Bulgarians have aimed ever since their liberation, and will continue to aim until they shall have achieved it. The "Great Bulgaria" is the watchword of minister, soldier and peasant alike. It is the shibboleth of politics, the test of patriotism, the inspiration under which farmers and townsmen send their sons to the regiments and their taxes to the treasury without a murmur of discontent. It is the end toward which the energies of the nation are bent with a singleness of purpose which somehow recalls the development of Japan from a fairy-tale to a menace and the stolid growth of Prussia from a geographical term to a colossus.

AUSTRIAN DESIGNS IN ALBANIA.

Miss M. Edith Durham, writing in the *Contemporary Review* on the Serb and Albanian frontiers, says :—

Few are aware of the number of lives that have been lost on these frontiers and the amount of bitterness that has been created and fostered. During the past eight years I have yearly travelled the western half of the Balkan peninsula, and bit by bit have managed to see both sides of all the frontiers and get through all of the Debatable Lands of the Serbs and Albanians. I can only say that the whole arrangement of land distribution seems to have been planned with the intention of so weakening each race that it might speedily fall into Austrian power. And that, circumstances being so, Austria has, for the whole thirty years, been working steadily and quite unscrupulously to attain that end. No tricks have been too dirty to be employed, and money has been spent with extraordinary lavishness, though many parts of the Austrian dominions had in consequence to be starved.

A Hungarian once said to me frankly : "Our policy is to cut the Serbs in pieces till they are powerless. They must never be allowed to unite or they will be too strong for us." And on this principle Austria has acted. No diplomacy is too low to employ to this end.

Austrian plans are widely extended, and embrace the whole of Albania. One must travel through the land to realise the great sums that have been spent on it—in hopes of buying the sympathies of the people—and the complicated network of intrigue.

The Roman Catholic Church in Albania is under Austrian protection, is subsidised and freely wirepulled.

AUSTRIA AND SERVIA.

WRITING on Austria and Servia in the mid-December number of the *Revue de Paris*, M. Victor Bérard summarises an anonymous article published at Vienna, on November 5th last, in the *Danzers Armee-Zeitung*.

A MISCHIEVOUS ANONYMOUS ARTICLE.

In this article the anonymous writer shows that Vienna and Budapest are seeking every pretext for a war against the Serbs. He says in effect :—

The conflict with Servia and Montenegro in the present state of things presents itself as inevitable. Arms and ammunition are arriving in Servia, and Italy is aiding our adversary, and is secretly preparing for war.

We need an *entente* with Turkey, which, at all costs, must become our friend, and to bring it about we must give financial support on a large scale and guarantee the integrity of the Ottoman Empire against all comers.

We must become the immediate neighbour of Turkey on a wider frontier. But we cannot instal ourselves on the Macedonian frontier till Servia and Montenegro have definitely disappeared. Consequently we should not avoid a conflict with these two countries, but rather desire it and hasten it on.

In politics only brutal egoism obtains great results. Against Italy, for instance, we could rouse Abyssinia, and prepare a new Adoua, and it would not be difficult to foment risings in Sicily and Sardinia. Against England we could exploit Egypt and India, and with an agreement with Turkey could provoke a Pan-Islamic movement to endanger British rule.

It is high time that our policy should cease to be one of daily expediency, and that it should begin to deal with the great ends which shall assure the development of the monarchy. The first is the establishment of our hegemony in the Balkans, and when this is realised it ought to be followed by expansion towards the east.

When Baron Aerenthal has negotiated a reconciliation between Austria and Turkey and the Anglo-Franco-Russian loan has been realised, the Serbs, remarks M. Bérard, will do well to keep their powder

dry. Bismarck once said that he was Russian at Sofia and Austrian at Belgrade, but M. Bérard hopes that French diplomacy will remain Servian at Belgrade, Bulgarian at Sofia, Turkish at Stamboul, and honest and national everywhere, in order to be truly and sincerely French at Paris and Austrian at Vienna, for he fails to see what Austria would gain by such a mad enterprise as that suggested by the anonymous writer at Vienna.

KING PETER'S POSITION IN SERVIA.

THE first December number of *La Revue* publishes as a supplement an anonymous article entitled "King Peter and the Pan-Serb Movement."

THE CLUB OF THE SOUTHERN SLAVS.

In June, 1903, when the last representative of the House of Obrenovitch in the person of Alexander I. was assassinated and Peter Karageorgevitch ascended the throne, the writer begins, the obstacle to the realisation of the national ideal was removed, and immediately there was an outburst of Pan-Serb propaganda. At first all efforts were concentrated on securing the sympathies of the Southern Slavs. The "Club of the Southern Slavs" was founded, and meetings, etc., were organised. At this time King Peter was the object of enthusiastic ovations on the part of the Serbs, Bulgarians, Croatians, and Slavonians, and they gave him the title of King of the Southern Slavs. An attempt to bring about an *entente* between Servia and Bulgaria in 1904 ended in making the two States hostile, and during the last two years their relations have been very strained.

PLOTTING THE ASSASSINATION OF PRINCE NICHOLAS.

Meanwhile conspirators found their way into the Club of the Southern Slavs. They were represented, among others, by a relative of the King and by an intimate friend of the Crown Prince George, and they gave a more revolutionary character to the propaganda. They sent emissaries to Bosnia, not because Belgrade was thinking of a revolution in Bosnia, but because it was hoped to attract the attention of Europe to the province by revolts and bombs, and so revive a discussion of the Bosnian question by the same method as that adopted by the Bulgarians in Macedonia. Some of these bombs were directed to Montenegro, and the case of high treason at Cettigne last May proved that the assassination of Prince Nicholas and his family was plotted at Belgrade, and that the bombs were made in accordance with the recommendations of Crown Prince George.

THE AIM OF SERVIA.

What could be the object of Servia in seeking the assassination of Prince Nicholas? Three reasons are offered in explanation. In the first place, Prince Nicholas has always been considered the most important man among the Slavs of the South, and his popularity increased when, in 1905, he granted his people a Constitution. At the same time King Peter and his dynasty were losing their partisans, and during the last two years there has been a growing discontent with the present *régime*, so that at the Court of Belgrade there was every reason to fear the rivalry of the Montenegrin dynasty. In addition, Prince Mirko of Montenegro has been named more than once as a candidate for the Servian throne.

A second reason for the suppression of the dynasty of Prince Nicholas, planned at Belgrade, lay in the desire to realise the Pan-Serb idea. The Pan-Serbs declared that this could only be rendered possible by the disappearance of one of the two existing dynasties, and Belgrade naturally favoured the suppression of Prince Nicholas.

KING PETER AND THE CONSPIRATORS.

The third reason is quite comprehensible to those who have read the revelations of George Nastitch. Though it is not explicitly stated, the plot placed in Montenegro the initial centre of the revolution. But the sending of the bombs to Montenegro was premature; it occasioned dissensions in the Club, and the plan relating to Montenegro failed.

What is the position of the Servian Court in regard to Pan-Serbianism? and is it true that King Peter and Prince George support the movement? asks the writer in conclusion. For want of more tangible proofs he refers us to the past. Before his advent to the throne King Peter, he answers, was always a conspirator and a revolutionary. He took part in all the plots against the Obrenovitch dynasty, and for some time it has been no mystery that he was aware of the plot of which King Alexander and Queen Draga were the victims. His complicity in the matter lies heavy upon him to-day. He does not approve of much that goes on in Servia, but he can do nothing, being, as he is, the prisoner of conspirators. The plan to assassinate King Alexander dates back to his marriage with Draga in the autumn of 1901. Each one who took part in it signed the following vow: "I swear by all that is for me most sacred and most precious in the world that I will kill King Alexander and Queen Draga, and that I will cause Peter Karageorgevitch to ascend the throne of Servia"; but before signing the chief conspirator went twice to Geneva to obtain from Peter a promise that when once he had become king he would not prosecute the conspirators. The first time the promise was given orally, the second time in writing.

THE *Wide World Magazine's* chief articles are that upon "Some Savage Pastimes," by Mr. E. Way Elkington, and Dr. Wilfred Grenfell's account of voyaging about on an ice-floe. Dr. Grenfell is well known as a missionary to Labrador. A lady missionary to New Guinea (Papua) also describes her experiences in that cannibal land.

YOUNG TURKEY AND THE BALKANS.

IN the first December number of the *Revue de Paris* Alfred Berl concludes his notes on Young Turkey begun in mid-November.

Before leaving the country he endeavours to give a *résumé* of the situation. The Turks, he says, inspire us with admiration and sympathy for their good qualities, but their defects must fill the hearts of their sincerest friends with trouble and doubt. Generous and exclusive, tolerant, and subject to returns of fanaticism, full of bravery and apathy, the Turk is a rare mixture of virtue and contradictory faults, and the Revolution was a surprising synthesis of them all. It was a magnificent effort at regeneration, an admirable example of magnanimity, followed on the morrow by an absolute lack of method and political organisation. Numerous perils threaten the cradle of liberty, and it has few friends to protect it. A double obligation rests on the shoulders of the men of the Revolution. First, they should raise the law above ethnic and confessional passions, and see to it that there is rigorous observance of the principles affirmed by the Constitution. It is the strict and invariable application of the law in civil and in criminal cases which will gradually convince the former privileged classes that their privilege is a dead thing and equality a living reality. Secondly, the men of the Revolution must work for a *rapprochement* of the different races by co-operating with the Christians for the general good, preaching, by example as well as by precept, mutual respect and a spirit of concord. A free, prosperous, and powerful Turkey means the pacification of the Balkans. The Turk will fulfil the mission which has devolved upon him in the empire, and Turkey will represent security, justice, and law.

THE CONFERENCE.

In an anonymous article on Young Turkey and the Balkans in the *Correspondant* of December 10th, the writer says the Conference will meet when Bulgaria and Turkey have arrived at an agreement, and when Austria and Turkey and Austria and Russia have obtained the same results. When this triple result has been obtained—that is to say, when a Conference would have become completely useless, as there will be nothing to settle—the Conference will meet solemnly, and it will be one of the great successes of modern diplomacy. Nevertheless this Conference will do something; it will be an assembly to protest against the attacks directed against the integrity of the Ottoman Empire, and it will proclaim the union of Crete with Greece.

THE CRISIS IN THE BALKANS.

Concluding his article on Europe and the Balkan Crisis, in the mid-December part of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, René Pinon says that thirty years of European crises have been the result of the Berlin Congress, for the method and the principles which inspired the deliberations were bad, the method being that of the Holy Alliance, and the principles being those of Bismarck. Everything in Europe now proves that the time for such a policy is past. The future Conference must inaugurate a new policy, more concerned with the wishes, the rights, and the welfare of the nations. Balkan affairs should be dealt with by the Balkan States, and the States should form a sort of confederation in which regenerated Turkey would have its place, and the confederation should be strong enough to resist all foreign ambitions, including those both of Russia and Austria. The unexpected resistance which the annexation of Bosnia has called forth should be a useful lesson to Austria-Hungary; it shows that at the time when Austria is entering on a new policy on the eve of a new reign the sovereign force of the present moment is not the subtlety of diplomatists, or the perennial routine of bureaucracies, or even the power of bayonets, but the will of the people.

THE YOUNG TURK AT CLOSE QUARTERS.

Mr. Noel Buxton, Chairman of the Balkan Committee, contributes to the *Nineteenth Century* his view of the Young Turks. The Balkan Committee has spoken more strongly against the Turks than any other extant body, but the Young Turks invited the Committee to send delegates to see for themselves the new Turkey. Mr. Buxton tells how the new German organ, the *Osmanischer Lloyd*, gave a verbatim *exposé* of their previous hostile writings. The missile returned like a boomerang upon the throwers. The papers thanked the Young Turks for convincing the most active of Turkey's former foes, and so winning the friendship of England. Mr. Buxton gives his own impression of the Young Turks:—

> Personal acquaintance with them has left me deeply impressed. These men appear to be at once practical and principled, restrained, frank, of invariable good sense, not self-seeking, in the proper sense patriotic.

He thinks the facts confirm his judgment and have proved the ability of the Young Turks. He found something strangely modest—he would venture to say English—in the Young Turk's description of his own part in the astonishing plot. He will not speak of his suffering under the old *régime*, nor divulge who have played the leading parts in the Revolution, but with all his reserve he betrays an unconquerable hatred towards Abdul Hamid. Nevertheless he is an Opportunist in that he takes every chance given him by circumstance. For example, the Sultan's own plan of banishing all active men to the provinces was made to form an automatic propaganda.

IN *Blackwood's Magazine* for January, General Sir Henry Brackenbury's "Memories of My Spare Time (1856-1885)" are chiefly concerned this time with Sedan and the work done among the masses of wounded by two English surgeons. It is a very interesting account which he gives of this, taken from a letter written by himself at the actual time.

THE FUTURE OF RAILWAYS AND THE STATE.

MR. W. M. ACWORTH'S SUGGESTIONS.

IN the *Economic Journal* for December, Mr. W. M. Acworth, the well-known expert, gives us his conclusions upon the vexed question of the relations between Railways and the State. Mr. Acworth surveys the field, and declares that while "there is everywhere a tendency towards further State control, the tendency towards absolute State-ownership and State-operation is far from being equally universal. But it seems to me that both in England and America we must expect to see in the near future a considerable development of executive government control over railways."

A HINT FROM MEXICO.

Mr. Acworth says:—

I believe the relation between the State and the national railways is one of the most difficult and important questions of modern politics, and that the one valuable and original contribution to the solution of that question which has been made in the present generation is due to the President of the Mexican Republic and his Finance Minister, Señor Limantour. The Mexicans have adopted the following scheme: For a comparatively small expenditure in actual cash, coupled with a not very serious obligation to guarantee the interest on necessary bond issues, the Mexican Government have acquired such a holding of deferred ordinary stock in the National Railroad Company of Mexico as gives them, not, indeed, any immediate dividend on their investment, but a present control in all essentials of the policy of the company, and also prospects of considerable profit when the country shall have further developed. The organisation of the company as a private commercial undertaking subsists as before.

THE LESSON OF HISTORY.

Mr. Acworth says:—

To sum up in a sentence the lesson which I think history conveys, it is this: Closer connection than has hitherto existed between the State and its railways has got to come, both in this country and in the United States. Hitherto in Anglo-Saxon democracies neither State ownership nor State control has been over-successful. The best success has been obtained by relying for control, not on the constable, but on the eventual supremacy of an enlightened public opinion.

WHAT BRITAIN NEEDS.

The great thing is to create a power behind the general manager, and to secure that such a power shall be wise. Mr. Acworth says:—

What we need is a system under which the responsibility rests, as at present, with a single man (let us call him the general manager), and he does what he on the whole decides to be best, subject however to this: that if he does what no reasonable man could do, or refuses to do what any reasonable man would do, there shall be a power behind to restrain, or, as the case may be, to compel him. And that power may, I think, safely be simply the Minister—let us call him the President of the Board of Trade. For, be it observed, the question for him is not the exceedingly difficult and complicated question, "What is best to be done?" but the quite simple question, "Is the decision come to which I am asked to reverse so obviously wrong that no reasonable man could honestly make it?"

And even this comparatively simple question the President would not be expected to decide unaided. He will need competent advisory bodies. Railway history shows two such bodies that have been eminently successful—the Prussian State Railway Councils and the Massachusetts Railroad Commission. Wholly unlike in most respects, they are yet alike in this: their proceedings are public, their conclusions are published, and those conclusions have no mandatory force whatever. And it is to these causes that, in my judgment, their success, which is undeniable, is mainly due.

THE SINE QUÂ NON.

Professor Gustaf Cohn, writing in the same journal on "The Nationalisation of Railways," describes the working of the German system. He says:—

But this much is certain—the first indispensable condition of a successfully worked State railway system is a competent Civil Service. Indeed, among all the difficulties urged by American writers against the establishment of a State or Federal railway system in the United States, the most plausible argument is that the need for reform of the existing Civil Service, which comprises the administrative authorities of towns, States, and the Union, is already one of the most urgent problems of public life. If this fresh duty, requiring the services of a mighty army of new officials, were to devolve on the State or Union, the problem would be complicated beyond all measure.

In the German States, and especially in Prussia, the tradition of some centuries has produced the type of civil servant which is a *sine quâ non* of this and other branches of public service.

Mr. P. Dougan, writing in the *Westminster Review* for January on "Where Nationalisation Fails," thus defines the limits of State duty:—

To encourage individual effort, as well as to insist upon personal responsibility, and a consciousness of being a factor in the progress of the nation, demands the attention of every State authority, whilst for the latter to arrogate to itself the prerogative of dictation in economic and industrial affairs can only lead to complications and dissensions incapable of adjustment.

CONSUELO: SUFFRAGETTE?

MANIFESTO BY THE DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH.

THE *North American Review* for January publishes the first of a series of papers on the position of woman by the Duchess of Marlborough. This paper is an historical retrospect, but at the same time touches some of the burning questions of the day, upon which the Duchess expresses her own views. On the question of the moral rights of men and women, she says:—

It is, in my opinion, the necessity to adjust herself to man, to be judged by his individual standard, and to conform her whole personality to his way of thinking, that has robbed woman of the power, strength, and influence she could have exerted as a united and independent majority. Why should women have a standard of right and wrong adjustable to the moral sense of men to whom they may happen to belong by purchase as in earlier days—by marriage as in modern? How can any logical sequence in mind or action be expected of woman under such prevailing conditions?

If man is taught to regard woman only as conducive to his comfort and pleasure, how, she asks, can she rise to his higher flights? Is this attitude, the Duchess continues, to be traced to the industrial value of women?

An idea has even been projected that, if women gain the franchise, England will become addicted to polygamy—women being in the majority by a million and a half and every woman insisting upon her right to a share of a husband. But the industrial value of woman in the upper and middle classes has so greatly decreased that it is to be feared that more than one wife will hardly meet with favour in the eyes of the man who has to dress, feed, and amuse her.

THE STANDARD OF WEIGHT AND HEIGHT.

DR. BRANDRETH SYMONDS, chief medical director of one of the large life insurance companies, contributes a very valuable study to *McClure's* on the mortality of overweights and underweights. He gives the first standard table of weights compiled in 1897 by Dr. G. R. Shepherd for the Association of Life Insurance Medical Directors. This, which is given below, has been adopted by the leading insurance companies as the standard :—

Years :—	15-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
5ft. 0in.	120	125	128	131	133	134	134	134	131	
5ft. 1in.	122	126	129	131	134	136	136	136	134	
5ft. 2in.	124	128	131	133	136	138	138	138	137	
5ft. 3in.	127	131	134	136	139	141	141	141	140	140
5ft. 4in.	131	135	138	140	143	144	145	145	144	143
5ft. 5in.	134	138	141	143	146	147	149	149	148	147
5ft. 6in.	138	142	145	147	150	151	153	153	153	151
5ft. 7in.	142	147	150	152	155	156	158	158	158	156
5ft. 8in.	146	151	154	157	160	161	163	163	163	162
5ft. 9in.	150	155	159	162	165	166	167	168	168	168
5ft. 10in.	154	159	164	167	170	171	172	173	174	174
5ft. 11in.	159	164	169	173	175	177	177	178	180	180
6ft. 0in.	165	170	175	179	180	183	182	183	185	185
6ft. 1in.	170	177	181	185	186	189	188	189	189	189
6ft. 2in.	176	184	188	192	194	196	194	194	192	192
6ft. 3in.	181	190	195	200	203	204	201	198		

These weights and heights were taken when the parties were shod and clad. It is noticeable that short men grow stout faster than tall. A similar standard for women was prepared by Dr. F. S. Weisse, and is based on all healthy residents of the United States and Canada who had been accepted for life insurance since 1895. They were shod and supposed to be dressed in ordinary clothing :—

	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	COMBINED AGES.
4ft. 11in.	111	113	115	117	119	122	125	128	128	126	118
5ft. 0in.	113	114	117	119	122	125	128	130	131	129	120
5ft. 1in.	115	116	118	121	124	128	131	133	134	132	122
5ft. 2in.	117	118	120	123	127	132	134	137	137	136	125
5ft. 3in.	120	122	124	127	131	135	138	141	141	140	128
5ft. 4in.	123	125	127	130	134	138	142	145	145	144	131
5ft. 5in.	125	128	131	135	139	143	147	149	149	148	135
5ft. 6in.	128	132	135	139	143	146	151	153	153	152	139
5ft. 7in.	132	135	139	143	147	150	154	157	156	155	143
5ft. 8in.	136	140	143	147	151	155	158	161	161	160	147
5ft. 9in.	140	144	147	151	155	159	163	166	166	165	151
5ft. 10in.	144	147	151	155	159	163	167	170	170	169	155
COMBINED HEIGHTS ..	123	126	129	132	136	139	142	145	144	142	133

It is remarked that women grow stout more rapidly than men, and in general it may be said that the lowest death-rate is found in the class who are about 5 per cent. below the standard; but in the ages below thirty the lowest death-rate is found among those who are 5 to 10 per cent. above standard. Overweight is a dangerous symptom after twenty-eight, though it counterbalances a tuberculous tendency. Overweight universally shortens life. Underweight is less harmful than overweight. Overweight is a burden, not a reserve fund.

THE LIVERY COMPANIES OF LONDON.

MR. MATTHEW DAVOREN, in the *World's Work*, puts and answers in the affirmative the question, Should the Livery Companies of London be dissolved? He estimates their income at a million and a half a year. He tells how the rich companies get rid of some of their wealth by giving the most expensive dinners, and placing a five or ten pound note under the plate of a Liveryman. Two guineas is a common fee for attending a dinner. For example :—

The Dyers' Company, which is not reckoned amongst the wealthy ones, entertained some of their friends to a little dinner at Richmond. It must have been a comparatively light affair, for each cover only represented £3 3s. 0d., but, as if to make up for the meagreness of the repast, each guest was presented with a guinea to pay for his railway fare. A quarter of a century ago the companies were spending £100,000 a year in banquets, and as their capacity for making themselves comfortable has to all appearance increased with the increasing luxury of the times, the present sum devoted to such a purpose may be taken as much larger.

Yet London children, for whose benefit most of the trusts were founded, are going to school breakfastless.

The Goldsmiths spent £30,000 on a single staircase.

CHOPIN, HAYDN, MENDELSSOHN.

MUSICAL CENTENARIES OF 1909.

WRITING in the *Deutsche Revue* for December, Dr. Karl Reinecke reminds us that in 1909 we have three important musical centenaries to celebrate. Haydn died on May 31st, 1809; and Mendelssohn was born on February 3rd and Chopin on March 1st of the same year. Chopin, the pride of his country, and a favourite in every land, needs no praise, but Haydn and Mendelssohn are not cultivated to-day as one could wish and as they deserve, and therefore Herr Reinecke confines his remarks to these masters rather than to Chopin, whose creations, with few exceptions, are for the piano alone.

PARALLELS AND CONTRASTS.

Though there were many parallels between Haydn and Mendelssohn, there were also many startling contrasts in their lives. Haydn lived to a ripe old age, whereas Mendelssohn was cut off in the prime of life. Haydn's childhood was far from happy, and after his sixth year it was passed among strangers. Not so with Mendelssohn, whose early years were spent under the paternal roof in comparative comfort and luxury. At the age when Haydn was wandering about the streets of Vienna with no roof over his head but the sky, Mendelssohn was the favoured guest of Goethe. By the time that he was twelve Mendelssohn had composed several works, and he was only sixteen when he composed his famous octet for strings. Two years later came the Overture to "A Midsummer Night's Dream." In manhood Haydn had become a celebrity, and was known throughout Europe as the greatest authority on musical questions, but Mendelssohn, little more than a youth, was a famous musician and composer.

OUR DEBT TO HAYDN AND MENDELSSOHN.

In composing "The Creation," Haydn was the first after Handel to create an immortal oratorio; while Mendelssohn produced two oratorios of lasting importance —"St. Paul," composed at the age of twenty-four, and "Elijah," two years before his early death. To both composers is due the honour of creating real national songs. Austria is indebted to Haydn for her national hymn, "Gott erhalte Franz den Kaiser," to the tune of which Germans sing their "Deutschland, Deutschland über alles," while Mendelssohn created the touching parting-song, "Es ist bestimmt in Gottes Rat," and other songs of world-wide fame. Pure, absolute instrumental music owes more to Haydn than to almost any other composer. A charming characteristic is his never-failing humour, yet in his quartets and symphonies there are also movements of depth, force, and passion, not unworthy of a Beethoven. Mendelssohn, who followed faithfully the models of the great classical masters, nevertheless retained the personal note of his own individuality, and succeeded in creating works which attracted and inspired the younger composers of his day.

THE FEUILLETON AND ITS HISTORY.

IT is curious that the feuilleton should not have found more favour in the Press of this country, for, having regard to the unhandy shape of our papers, no form could be more attractive for articles on questions of permanent interest or more convenient when it is desired to abstract and preserve them. To the December number of *Velhagen* Toni Kellen contributes a brief history of the feuilleton in France and in Germany.

OF FRENCH ORIGIN.

Originally the "small page," intended partly for amusement and partly for instruction, was not associated with political papers. Nor was it at first the custom to make it the lower part of a page, separated by a thick dividing line from the more general part of the paper. The feuilleton proper appeared in France in 1800 in the *Journal des Débats*, and contained theatrical news, short poems, etc. But the father of the feuilleton as we know it was, according to Balzac, Julien Louis Geoffroy, who introduced into it serious literary and dramatic criticism, reminiscences, articles on literary subjects, etc. The *Journal des Débats* was also the first newspaper to devote a special feuilleton to music, and in the beginning it was entrusted to no less an authority than Hector Berlioz, whose articles appeared on Tuesdays, and who was known as the "Mardiste."

THE NOVEL-FEUILLETON.

Meanwhile other papers began to introduce the feuilleton, but chiefly as a suitable form in which to publish novels in daily instalments. The novel-feature met with great success, and soon the *Journal des Débats* made a similar concession to the new taste of the reading public. The novels of Eugène Sue and Alexandre Dumas owed not a little of their fame to their publication in the feuilleton of a daily paper. Even Balzac and George Sand submitted to the plan, though they did not always manage to hold the attention of "daily" readers, their novels being designed to appear in book form. Several other papers owed their enormous circulation chiefly to the sensational novels published in the feuilleton—and, consequently, they were ready to pay very high prices for suitable contributions. One writer, Xavier de Montépin, is said to have received seven francs a line for his novels.

THE GERMAN FEUILLETON.

Germany has copied the French idea, but, says the writer, German journalists and littérateurs have rarely attained the light and elegant touch of the French. Nevertheless they have produced an enormous amount of excellent work. It was not till the end of the thirties that the political papers of Germany instituted a regular feuilleton in the modern sense of the word, the first paper of importance to do so being the *Kölnische Zeitung* in 1838. To-day the German public are so accustomed to the feuilleton that the most modest paper must give at least a novel in this shape. In Germany the music feuilleton is an important feature of every paper of standing.

CANADA MOVING TOWARDS FREE TRADE.

IN the *American Review of Reviews* Mr. Andrew Macphail tells how Canada looks at American tariff making. He says that Canadians note the movement which in the United States is gathering for freer trade. In Canada also there is a desire for freer trade, largely stimulated by the increased cost of living and by the belief that Protection leads to the corruption of public life. The Dominion Grange, the Farmers' Association of Ontario, and the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association memorialised the Government in 1906 thus :—

"We ask, in the coming revision of the tariff, that the protective principle be wholly eliminated ; and as proof of our sincerity we will gladly assent to the entire abolition of the whole list of duties in agricultural imports." A resolution of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, which claims to represent 200,000 organised workmen, reads : "That while free trade in labour is held by our employers to be necessary for the protection of their interests, we hold that free trade in the products of labour is equally necessary for our well-being."

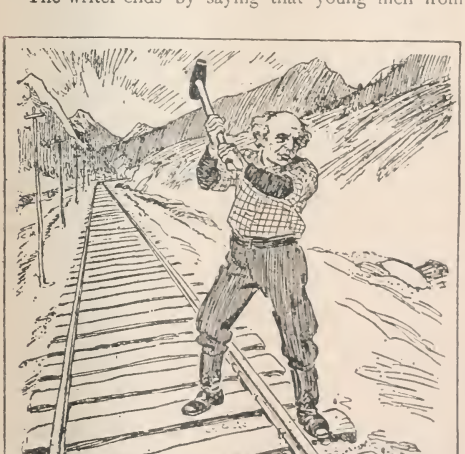
The writer adds :—

There is one question upon which Canadians have made up their minds. They will make no proposals, and they will have nothing to do with any proposals, which would put England at a disadvantage.

Nevertheless :—

In spite of a Customs preference of one-third in favour of British goods, imports from the United States are greater than those from Great Britain, with a tendency to grow even more rapidly. Exports to the United States have doubled within the last nine years, while in the same time the exports to Great Britain have only increased by about one-third.

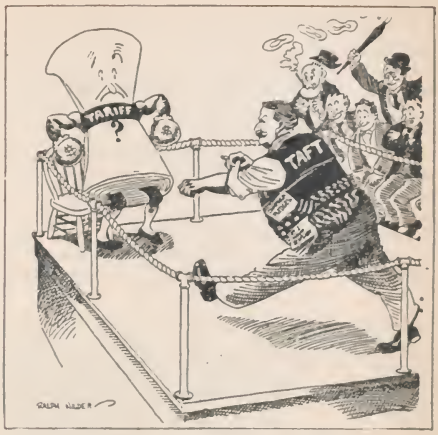
The writer ends by saying that young men from the United States are coming to Canada in increasing numbers. They are found in factories, offices, universities, churches and clubs. They are crowding the Western lands. They make good citizens.



Toronto Globe.]

Sir Wilfrid Laurier means to Finish His Work.

The last spike in the Transcontinental—a prophecy of 1911.



Record-Herald.] [Chicago.

The New Champion's First Job.

WHAT WE TAKE YEARLY FROM INDIA.

MR. H. G. KEENE contributes to the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* an interesting comparison of India under Company and Crown. He says that the scientific methods of the later period have been less endurable than the somewhat free and easy methods of an earlier time. He recalls the fact that "we owe to the two most illustrious servants of John Company (Sir Thomas Munro and the Hon. M. Elphinstone) the declaration that India cannot be held permanently without a liberal employment of Indian officials." He believes that the respectable classes form a large majority who tacitly acknowledge the benefits of British administration. They are content to take it for granted, and do not trouble to strengthen the hands of the Government. The following summary, though intended to justify British policy, may be felt by many to work in the opposite direction :—

The subjoined figures taken from the latest official report will serve to show that the Indian "Home Charges" form a legitimate part of the Empire's expenses, being no more than remuneration for services past and present :—

Home charges charged to revenue are 10¼ millions in 1906-1907. Of these about 2¾ millions are for stores ; 2¼ millions for civil pay and pensions ; 0¾ millions, interest ; 1½ millions, army (active) ; 2½ millions, army (retired) ; total, 18½ millions. 0¾ millions are payment for money ; 2½ millions are payment for stores ; 0¼ millions are payment for men.

IN the *Young Man* Mr. W. Ll. Williams draws an interesting parallel between the rapid rise of the Archbishop-elect of York and the present Chancellor of the Exchequer.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AT OYSTER BAY.

IN the *Pall Mall Magazine* Mr. Charles Dawbarn gives his impressions of a visit which he paid to President Roosevelt at his summer residence, a delightful country mansion, red-tiled, with a large sweeping verandah on one side of it, having the air of a pleasant lounging-place.

When the President is at Oyster Bay the executive offices of the American Republic are over the village grocery store. "Imagine," says the writer, "any other country housing its executive staff in such humble quarters as these match-boarded rooms above a shop, whence arises the perfume of tea, gently blending with the odour of New England cheese."

Ulk.] [Berlin.

A Parting Gift.

ROOSEVELT: "Now, my dear Taft, here's a gorilla for you. Every day it will show you how you ought to grin and show your teeth, now you're President."

As for the President himself, he has the priceless gifts of putting his visitors at their ease and of appearing absorbingly interested in their conversation. His very speech bewrayeth him, for it is staccato, though not unpleasantly so. In the apparently somewhat discursive conversation which followed his liking for Dickens soon came out. "I hope you read your Dickens?" he asked his visitor, who presently asked him about "Martin Chuzzlewit." "Yes," said the President, "it was all true; but was it worth while to write the truth so bitingly?"

And he proceeded to remark that he had never criticised England publicly throughout the South African war. Another of the President's tastes is for G. K. Chesterton: but Bernard Shaw, he seemed to think, could be taken too seriously.

And in the end the writer concluded that "much of the so-called big-stick manner of the President is pure pose—unconscious pose, perhaps, but mainly political pose. At heart he is the scholar and the high-principled gentleman, happily combining these traits with a great, wholesome taste for out-of-doors."

ELIHU ROOT.

IN the *American Review of Reviews* appears an article by Mr. Walter Wellman in praise of Mr. Root, "World Statesman," who leaves the Secretaryship of State to take his seat in the Senate on March 4th.

The really great men of the present epoch in America, the writer says, have been McKinley, Roosevelt, Hay, Taft, and Root. "But the greatest of them in intellectual force, in mastery of the principles and details of our Government, is Elihu Root. There is no difference of opinion at the national capital as to that." And President Roosevelt has said of him that:—

He is the greatest man that has appeared in the public life of any country, in any position, on either side of the ocean, in my day and generation. To write a list of the things he has done, of the achievements upon which his mind has worked either in dominant or influential fashion, would be to write the history of the American Government for nearly ten years. Not the half, nor the fifth, of his work bears his name. Much of the very best he has done he is not popularly known to have had anything to do with at all.

Year after year, we are told, at the White House, when anything difficult had to be decided, it was always, "Where's Elihu?" Yet ten years ago not five thousand men outside New York City had heard of this prodigy. By profession a lawyer, Mr. Root as a statesman has tackled the Cuban problem and the Philippine problem; and Cuba and the Philippines now form two monuments to his constructive genius. He helped President Roosevelt settle the anthracite coal strike; arranged the understanding between the United States and Japan; settled many long-standing questions between the United States and Canada; and greatly improved the relations between his country and Latin America. In short:—

He has settled more pending questions than any former Secretary of State, he has secured the ratification of more arbitration treaties than any of his predecessors—something like forty, all told. He has established better relations between the State Department and the Senate than have existed for many years. And not to speak of countless minor achievements, he has reorganised the Diplomatic and Consular Service, taken politics out of it, and put it upon a basis of merit and efficiency.

IN the *African Monthly*, Mr. Henry Gaskell, Pietermaritzburg, utters a warning note about the anti-Asiatic policy that is in vogue. He points out that the policy of exclusion marked in Egypt and in China a cessation of progress. "The development and progress of a nation depends much upon its contact with other nations, and what is true of nations may be true of races."

ENGLAND THROUGH AMERICAN EYES.

IN *Scribner's Magazine* appears an article on "England and the English," written by an American with some thirty years' experience of this country; and, as outsiders' estimates of us are always interesting, even if not particularly fresh or striking, I summarise the writer's conclusions, which are some of them superficial, some erroneous, and others more or less just.

The writer insists again and again on the English themselves and everything English differing from the Americans and everything American mainly because of one thing. Everything in this country, from the people to the food, is *heavier* than everything in America. One reads this and marvels. However, it is the writer's fixed opinion.

IN ENGLAND YOU MUST DO AS THE ENGLISH DO.

It is useless to say you do not wish to do; slowly and surely you are forced into doing so. The servants' social distinctions amongst themselves, for instance, must be recognised, or you are left without servants. This, we are told, is the country of personal freedom, and also personal responsibility. At the same time, as he admits, the moment you please to do what you ought not to please to do the road to gaol lies before you, and it is a shorter road than in any other country.

A MAN'S COUNTRY.

The writer's criticism as to personal responsibility in England is precisely the criticism made by the writer of a very recent book of German impressions of English life, and his remark that England is "a man's country" was made by a French visitor to London last summer. It is apparent, he says, that England is a land of men, ruled by men, obedient to the ways and comforts and prejudices of men—not women. "Here the male bird has the brilliant plumage." The men are well turned out—"dressed," in fact; the women are merely clothed. And while our beautiful women's features are moulded, beautiful American women's are chiselled.

DIET AND VICE.

As for our food, not even an American coal-heaver could live the year round on the food and drink which are the daily dietary of many Englishmen!—which only shows how dainty and delicate a fish is the American coal-heaver. As for our poorer classes, nowhere else has the writer seen people so squalid, undersized, and so plainly and revoltingly diseased.

Our streets in the West End he considers more unblushing than those of New York, Mexico City, or the chief European capitals. These all keep vice more or less secluded; whereas in England it parades the streets. Parisians sometimes say the precise contrary, but no matter. In London—and really the impressions seem to be entirely of London and the Londoners, not of England and the English as a whole—the impression of the fearful struggle to survive is stronger than elsewhere.

DOMINEERING AND CONVENTIONAL.

So long have the English been dominant, that it is no wonder they have also often become domineering. This takes the form, in the best types, of easy confidence and repose; in the second and third rate types, of bumptiousness and unequalled impudence, which together have made the Englishman "the most generally disliked of men." Now that Uncle Sam is too big to be bullied by him, he is for ever irritated by his airs. Socially, too, the Englishman is a "fish." His reticence and fear of intruding on the private concerns of another is carried to extremes, the writer thinks, although he admits that the resultant freedom from prying or questioning is "delightful." Our Mills and Spencers, our Byrons and Shelleys, our "wayward men of genius" (how this description would have pleased Mill!) we willingly let die; they are our "ugly ducklings," and we are like the old hen, their mother, who does not quite know what to do with them.

After all this, one ought to feel profoundly grateful to the writer for condescending to admit that "once you know the Englishman, and are accepted by him, there is no kindlier, more hospitable or pleasanter comrade."

Will U.S.A. Revert to Primitive European?

SHALL we find the ancient and common European type in the future population of the United States? This question is raised by Mr. W. Z. Ripley, discussing in the *Atlantic Monthly* the facts and prospects of the intermingling of races in the United States. He propounds the interesting query:—

> What chance is there that, out of this forcible dislocation and abnormal intermixture of all the peoples of the civilised world, there may emerge a physical type tending to revert to an ancestral one, older than any of the present European varieties? The law seems to be well supported elsewhere, that crossing between highly evolved varieties or types tends to bring about reversion to the original stock. The greater the divergence between the crossed varieties, the more powerful does the reversionary tendency become. Here is another mode of access to that primitive type, or even an older one, running back to a time before the separation of European varieties of men began.

The very portentous fact is mentioned that though the birthrate among the foreign-born in Massachusetts is about three times that of the native born, yet the second generation of these immigrant peoples is less fruitful than even the native-born American.

IN the Catholic *Month* Mr. James Britten reviews Mr. Joseph Hocking's anti-Catholic novels under the heading of "A School for Slander." He closes by speaking of the charges which Mr. Hocking, under the thinnest of disguises, brings against the Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield. He adds:—

> There is only one thing can bring men of the Hocking and Horton stamp—as the latter has lately had occasion to know—to their bearings. It is useless to appeal to those qualities of which they claim a monopoly—truthfulness, honesty, straightforwardness: only a threat of legal proceedings will bring them to their knees, and it is matter for regret that this means is not more frequently employed.

GERMAN STUDENT DUELLING.

AN interesting paper, accompanied by effective and not absurdly gay colour illustrations, appears in the *World To-Day*, upon German Student Duelling. Some of the pictures—one, for instance, of a duel of the famous Borussia Corps at Bonn—is admittedly not a real picture, but only as nearly like actuality as possible, no photography being allowed. Another, of the results of a duelling day in a German student corps, is really very pretty indeed, showing, as it does, eight slashed faces and bandaged heads.

THE TWO KINDS OF DUELS: (1) HARMLESS.

German student duels are either "pre-arranged," *i.e.*, fought with straight two-edged swords, and not necessarily implying that the parties are on bad terms; or serious duels, fought with the two-edged, slightly curved sabre. Nine-tenths of the duels probably belong to the former class. In this kind of duel the second is no merely ornamental bystander; on the contrary, he crouches by his principal, always on the alert to help him, should he need help, his function being one of great responsibility and requiring corresponding skill. The duel lasts, as a rule, until one of the duellists is either incapacitated through fatigue, or—which is more frequent—through loss of blood. Then both are dragged out into the sewing-room, and all those present watch the interesting operation of sewing them up. Except in case of heart-failure, fainting, etc., no anæsthetic is administered; the student simply sets his teeth and bears the pain.

(2) SERIOUS.

For a serious duel, to avenge an insult, the principals are bared to the waist, and only protected by a neck-binding, and, if the affair is not too serious, a heart-leather as well. As duelling is not supposed to be allowed in Germany, the students' corporations are particularly careful not to allow any but their own members to be present. A non-serious duel is called in German law "assault and battery," and a serious one "a fight with deadly weapons," penitentiary imprisonment being the punishment for the latter. But everyone, the Kaiser included, seems to wink at them. Last summer, according to the writer of this article, the Bonn-am-Rhein students duelled away more vigorously than ever before. Every day a dozen newly-bandaged heads appeared; one student had his eye punched out, and another the sinews of his arm cut, so as to render the hand permanently useless. A duelling-day is regularly followed by an all-night beer sitting. The writer once witnessed a sabre duel, which apparently took place in rooms belonging to an inn. He was at once observed to be a new-comer, and before being admitted he had to be introduced by the doctor, his friend, as a harmless person, and one who was not going to report the matter to the police.

A revolting description is given of the duel itself, after which one of the combatants had to have sixty-one stitches put in before all his wounds were sewn up, and to remain a week in hospital. In this case a citizen reported the affair, but when the police came along the innkeeper had mopped up all the blood and knew nothing whatever of any duel. In the most famous German student corps—the Kaiser's corps, the Borussia of Bonn—hardly anyone is to be found except members of the nobility (*vons*), barons, counts, princes, excellencies, or dukes, with an occasional emperor.

"THE UNIVERSITY MANNER."

THE writer on this subject, who does not venture to give his name, tells us in the *Oxford and Cambridge Review* that he has had the interesting, if somewhat chastening experience of returning to his old University after the lapse of that period which separates youth from middle-age, and he is led to consider what it is that gives a peculiar stamp to University society. First, he mentions a kind of "self-sufficiency or superiority." This he accounts for by the following suggestions:—

> A University mainly exists for the education of youth, and there is hardly a resident who is not occupied during term time either in teaching or in initiating into the ways of society the undergraduate fresh from his public school. . . . All this practically results in a system of patronage, well-intentioned and necessary when applied to youth, but mistaken and irritating when it becomes a habit that cannot be laid aside, and is applied to compeers in age and standing. If the dweller in cities is prone to be influenced unduly by the opinion of those who are outside his own world, the University man is apt to think that most deficiencies may be covered by his intellectual grace. While the *ex cathedra* attitude so prevalent in cap and gown society is easily explained by the fact that nearly everybody is either a pedagogue or *in statu pupillari*, the atmosphere of mutual admiration in which the majority of the elect live is likewise accounted for by the tendency of the society to exalt all its members. . . . Members of a University seem to feel, like the Jews of old, that they are set apart as a chosen people. It is no doubt their honest belief that they are leaders of the intellectual life of England, and as such are in mid-stream, while the rest of us are in the backwaters of life, though imagining ourselves to be in the thick of its activities.
>
> The root of the matter is doubtless to be found in the lack of that particular sense of humour which, when present, prevents us from taking ourselves too seriously.
>
> New movements, for example, in art, music, or the drama and the changes of political life do not readily awaken interest, and nowhere do people care less about being up to date in these matters.

The writer has evidently been irritated by what he describes as "something approaching a well-bred arrogance in the University manner."

IRENE MACFADYEN in the *African Monthly* pleads for votes for women in a united South Africa. In Cape Colony registered white voters number 22·30 per cent. of the population. Women suffrage would raise the percentage to 30·25. Throughout the four Colonies some 137,758 white women might become voters. She quotes a decree of the Transvaal Volksraad of 1856: "Whenever a male person is recognised as burger of this Republic, his wife shall thereby also be recognised, and remain, as burgeress of this Republic."

A "TRUST" IN "CHARITY."

MR. J. D. ROCKEFELLER continues in the *World's Work* his "Random Reminiscences," and deals with the Benevolent Trust. He has already established a General Education Board, of which Mr. Carnegie has now become a member; an organisation formed for the purpose of working out in an orderly and scientific way the problem of helping to stimulate and improve education in all parts of the country:—

The General Education Board has made, or is making, a careful study of the location, aims, work, resources, administration, and educational value, present and prospective, of the institutions of higher learning in the United States. The Board makes its contributions, averaging something like £400,000 a year, on the most careful comparative study of needs and opportunities throughout the country. Its records are open to all. Many benefactors of education are availing themselves of these disinterested inquiries, and it is hoped that more will do so.

Herein Mr. Rockefeller finds himself somewhat anticipated by the Roman Church. He says the organisation of the Roman Church secures better results with a given sum of money than other Church organisations. "It is unnecessary to dwell upon the centuries of experience which the Church of Rome has gone through to perfect a great power of organisation."

VALUE OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION.

Mr. Rockefeller has a department specially organised for the purpose of reading, assorting, and investigating the hundreds of letters of appeal which are received daily at his office. He has come to the conclusion that the prudent and thoughtful giver will more and more choose great and responsible organisations as the medium for his gifts and the distribution of his funds to distant fields. With an insight not always to be expected of millionaires, Mr. Rockefeller says:—

If we assist the highest forms of education—in whatever field—we secure the widest influence in enlarging the boundaries of human knowledge; for all the new facts discovered or set in motion become the universal heritage. I think we cannot overestimate the importance of this matter.

He refers with warmest appreciation to the late Dr. Harper, who organised the University of Chicago. He says that Dr. Harper never asked him for a penny. What was given was given without his solicitation.

BITTERNESS TOWARDS NONE.

He indulges in this personal confession:—

Criticism which is deliberate, sober and fair, is always valuable and it should be welcomed by all who desire progress. I have had at least my full share of adverse criticism, but I can truly say that it has not embittered me, nor left me with any harsh feeling against a living soul.

This is a notable testimony, which does credit to the man.

TO SAVE GREAT SOULS SLAVING FOR MONEY.

Mr. Rockefeller goes on to say that he feels very strongly on the subject of Benevolent Trusts, by which he means corporations, to manage the business side of benefactions. At the present, he says, the whole machinery of benevolence is conducted upon more or less haphazard principles:—

Good men and women are wearing out their lives to raise money to sustain institutions which are conducted by more or less unskilled methods. We cannot afford to have great souls who are capable of doing the most effective work slaving to raise the money. That should be a business man's task.

The Benevolent Trusts when they come will raise these standards; they will look the facts in the face; they will applaud and sustain the effective workers and institutions; and they will uplift the intelligent standard of good work in helping all the people chiefly to help themselves.

SPEEDING UP ACROSS THE OCEAN.

NEW FORMS OF PROPULSION.

MR. LAWRENCE PERRY describes in the *World's Work* the contest for ocean supremacy. But for a spice of unnecessary bitterness, his account of the way Britain has beaten Germany and Germany is preparing to build ships faster and finer than the Cunarders is very interesting and instructive. He insists that luxurious steamships pay. Including their immense advertising value, vessels of the *Lusitania* type do pay, and craft larger and swifter will pay and pay handsomely. He expects the Germans, who have long belittled the turbine, now to take it up and to perfect it, as their manner is: they being excellent copyists and improvers, but indifferent pioneers. He says:—

Provided the Germans eventually excel in the development of the turbine, they may find when apparently upon the pinnacle of success that we have yet another card to play, and one which will solve the problem of motive-power for ocean liners for all time.

THE SUCTION-GAS SYSTEM.

This is suggested by the experiments which the Government is now conducting with the suction gas-engine, the advantage of which, as so far demonstrated, are that fewer stokers are required; that cheap coal—lignites—may be used, and that with an equal amount of coal consumption the gas-engine will develop power 50 per cent. greater than that of steam. The wonderful success of experiments in the obsolete battleship *Rattler* brought the matter to the public mind.

In engines of this type there is a boiler-like compartment into which the coal passes from a hopper on top of it. Stoking is thus mechanical. This boiler is like a pot stove, only much larger, of course, and the coal burns in it just as a banked fire burns in a furnace. Into this glowing mass a jet of air is introduced from a pipe running into the bottom of the furnace. From a small boiler attachment, steam is also let into this burning coal. The air and the steam percolating through the coal gives forth an unstable gas, carbon monoxide; and the steam disintegrating eventually supplies hydrogen. The gases thus formed pass out of the furnace, or producer, into what is known as a "washer," a cylindrical tank, adjoining the producer. In this "washer" jets of water clean the gas, which then proceeds into a scrubber, or filter, where the gas is further relieved of tar and other elements. From the rubber the gas flows into a centrifugal pump which takes out of the gas any liquid substance that remains. The gas then goes into the engine, and the resultant cycle of operations is precisely the same as in the ordinary gas-engine. The air is drawn through the coal by the suction of the engine, so that gas is made only as needed by the engine. The gas being made in this way there is no pressure, and thus no gas can escape into the vessel.

Already, although the turbine and suction-gas systems have not reached perfection, British engineers are seriously experimenting with electric propulsion—the installation of powerful generators which will furnish the requisite rotatory action to the screws.

WORKING-CLASS INSURANCE IN GERMANY.

THE most generally interesting paper in the *Forum* is that by Sir John Gorst, M.P., upon this subject. In the history of social reform, he thinks, there is nothing more remarkable than the system of almost universal insurance for the working-classes in Germany, planned by Bismarck rather more than twenty years ago. In 1901, out of 57,730,000 (total population) workpeople were insured to the numbers given below:—

Against sickness over	10,000,000
Against accident over	17,500,000
Against disability from ill-health or old-age, nearly	13,500,000
Say	41,000,000

Two main motives impelled Bismarck to originate this system—a genuine desire for social reform, and the hope of alleviating the discontent which was driving many workmen into the dreaded Socialist camp. Sir John Gorst then proceeds to draw attention to certain general principles underlying this scheme, and to the three chief kinds of insurance.

SICKNESS INSURANCE.

This is compulsory for all members of the classes to which it is applied, which are, of course, chiefly the wage-earning classes. If sickness insurance were made compulsory, Bismarck thought it must be done through the State. The law, he urged, must not enforce insurance, without at the same time providing an institution for it cheaper and safer than any other. The savings of the poor were not to be exposed to the danger of bankruptcy; and the best private company might, even with good management, conceivably become bankrupt. But there is no idea in this German system of making the workman dependent upon the State. All workmen in building occupations, mines, quarries, factories, foundries and smelting works, railways, shipyards, etc., must insure against sickness; so must even foremen and clerks in these occupations, if not earning more than £100 a year. In all cases one-third of the contributions is paid by the employer and two-thirds by the workmen. With the employers paying so much, the question arises, how can they compete against outsiders and keep their selling price so low?

ACCIDENT INSURANCE.

This is the most extensive form of all, being obligatory on all workpeople in great industrial establishments, and including all employés whose salaries do not exceed £150. Each employer's payments are fixed every year according to, first, the amount paid by him in wages and salaries during the preceding year; and, secondly, the risks of his business. The employers paying, as they do in this case, *all* contributions, naturally manage the funds, but the workpeople have much to do with deciding the question which most interests them—the amount of compensation.

INSURANCE AGAINST INFIRMITY AND OLD AGE.

All workmen and apprentices, whatever their salary, and all commercial clerks, teachers, and tutors earning less than £100 a year, must insure under this heading, from the age of sixteen. The contributions are paid by employers and employed in equal amounts, and vary according to average earnings. The minimum pension is about £5 10s. a year, and the maximum about £11 6s., the most common criticism of the scheme being that the pensions are too small; but then, as has often been said, even such small sums as these may make all the difference between a family being or not being able to keep an infirm relative with it.

THE FUTURE OF BRITISH WORKMEN:

AS FORECAST BY LABOUR M.P.'S.

THE *British Workman* has been asking a number of Labour members what form of literature will most influence the British workman of the future? Would they welcome the extension of University education? What is their attitude towards Christianity and total abstinence? Among the answers given, the Rt. Hon. Thomas Burt declares emphatically that working men would welcome the extension of University education. Like several others, Mr. Burt refers to the success of Ruskin College. Total abstinence, he says, is undoubtedly increasing among the workers. George Barnes, M.P., believes that the workmen more than others will take the altruistic view, and follow the altruistic line of conduct. "The attitude of the workman towards Christianity is one of benevolent indifference, and towards the Churches one of growing disfavour. I believe that at heart he is religious, but organised religion passes him by unmoved." He adds that there are "large green patches not covered by the above statement." He says there is an enormous improvement going on in regard to total abstinence. Mr. Pete Curran, M.P., says that working men of the future will certainly welcome the extension of University education on its broadest possible basis. The great body of the workers do accept the principle of Christianity as laid down by its Founder. But the success of its teaching, so far as the workers are concerned, will depend largely upon the attitude of its teachers towards the rapidly growing democratic sentiment through the kingdom. Mr. G. J. Wardle, M.P., thinks that University Extension would be welcomed. The Association for the Higher Education of Working Men is giving a stimulus to the love of culture. J. Ramsay Macdonald, M.P., declares "a good elementary education is far more important than a University education to the people of a country. I regret that so much attention is being paid by workers' organisations to visits to Oxford and Cambridge. Those visits do more harm than good. The British workman, weary of and disappointed with churches, will seek Christianity in life, will find it, and will treasure it as a precious consolation."

MILTON PRAISED AND BLAMED.

DR. CLIFFORD'S TRIBUTE.

IN the *Young Man* Dr. Clifford writes on Milton as the typical Puritan. He says, "We have in the seer Isaiah the complete type of prophetism; in Paul the pattern of Christianity; and in Milton the embodiment of the qualities and characteristics of Puritanism." Among these qualities and characteristics he places, first, "its radiant joyousness." Milton was as genial as his muse was sublime—"one of God's singing men, clad in the garments of praise." "Akin to this, and springing from the same cause, came his conquering optimism." In Milton we see the Puritan as the rightful heir of the Reformation and the Renaissance more vividly than anywhere else. Puritan is the new name for the two broad and deep streams of the revival of learning and the revival of the Gospel. A paragon of learning, he was a champion of freedom as the condition of virtue. His Puritanism was a fount of exhaustless philanthropy. Lover as he was of England, he never sank to narrow Jingoism. "And still our England needs that Puritanism, and needs it sorely."

A POET OF "INEXPLICABLE GRANDEUR."

Mr. Herbert Paul in the *Nineteenth Century* pronounces a brilliant panegyric on the great poet. He considers that Milton is beyond the categories of ordinary criticism. "His own unapproachable splendour preserves him from any such cheap and easy formula of flattering disparagement." He scorns the trick of calling Milton a typical Puritan. Of the critic he says, "Until he can define the infinite, and limit the laws of God, he must confess that in Milton there are tracts of inexplicable and incalculable grandeur."

"A MONUMENT OF EGOISM."

In the Catholic *Month* Rev. Herbert Thurston repels with indignation the suggestion that John Milton had before his death become a Roman Catholic. "Were the evidence for Milton's alleged Catholicism twice as strong as it is, we should be slow to claim it as a credit to the Church that she had won the adhesion of such a convert." "There was never man narrower, more unelastic, more convinced that his own rule was the rule which all the world must be made to fit, than John Milton. In vain we try to discern in him any trace of a Christlike quality. The liberty for which he strove would have been the liberty of Satan's myrmidons. Look at Milton as we may, he was a very monument of egoism. All that he seems to have extracted from his Bible were those qualities that were least amiable in the history of the Jewish people under the law."

AN important feature of the December number of *Nord und Süd* is a study, by H. Schoen, of the French poet and philosopher, Sully Prudhomme, based not only on his poems, but on a number of unpublished letters and manuscripts.

EDGAR ALLAN POE.

Scribner's contains a centenary article on Edgar Allan Poe (born January 19th, 1809) by Professor W. C. Brownell. The writer protests against American over-praise of Poe, saying it is particularly irrational. "The cult of Poe is not in the interests of literature, since as literature his writings are essentially valueless." Yet the writer admits that Poe is "the only Ishmael of American literature," and there is no more effective way of realising the distinction of his genius than by imagining this literature without him":—

> Poe's antagonism instinctively inclined him to art. He is in fact the solitary artist of our elder literature. This is his distinction and will remain such. Hawthorne is in a degree a rival, but in form rather than in *fond*, as his addiction to allegory attests, and in any case his Puritan pre-occupation with the moral forces invalidates his purely æsthetic appeal. Poe's art was unalloyed

Then surely he should have been judged as an artist unalloyed, and not on all sorts of grounds other than artistic. He was supremely interested in "technic," says this critic; his was the temperament which delights in terminology, labels, definitions, catalogues, and so forth—"the passion for order run to seed," is the way Professor Brownell puts it:—

> As a technician his most noteworthy success is the completeness of his effect. He understood to perfection the value of tone in a composition, and tone is an element that is almost invaluable. In this respect he has no American and few foreign rivals.

In other words, Poe was a literary artist, and America does not yet much appreciate literary artists. At least, to judge from this paper, one would not think she did.

A Woman's Record Mountain Climb.

Harper's Magazine opens with a remarkably interesting account, by Miss Annie S. Peck, of the very terrible first ascent she made last year (1908) of Mount Huascaran, Peruvian Andes. As she says, "the conquest of a mountain like Huascaran is truly a gigantic task." The marvel is how she accomplished such an ascent, and how neither she nor her two Swiss guides lost their lives. Somehow she contrived to get into her head the notion that Swiss guides were necessary for the success of her enterprise; whereas Italian guides have lately been preferred by most climbers in difficult and little known parts of the world. Certainly the account Miss Peck gives of her Swiss guides would not incline anyone to take them in preference to Italians. Mount Huascaran she thinks is certainly above 23,000 feet, and therefore higher than Aconcagua (22,800 feet), and probably above 24,000 feet, in which case Miss Peck claims the record for men as well as for women. But, if I mistake not, Dr. Bullock-Workman has climbed higher than 24,000 feet in the Himalayas. However, Miss Peck's ascent will remain one of the ascents of the world.

ELECTRIFYING THE COUNTRY DISTRICTS.

IN the *American Review of Reviews* Donald Cameron Shafer interprets "the voice of the brook." He says it was the noisy cataract that answered when the world lifted up its voice for more mechanical energy to drive the wheels of the cities. Now it is the whispering meadow brook which volunteers to do the hard work of the country districts, to enrich the soil, and to take the place of coal. The enormous consumption of coal and oil, and the enormous waste of coal in the mines, threaten the speedy extinction of both supplies of fuel. The land is spider-webbed with countless streams, big and little, which represent enough industrial energy to do all the farming work many times over, and leave enough energy to light every city and town, and furnish light and heat for every building. Enough water rolls past St. Louis to turn all the wheels in the United States. Enough water power is still undeveloped in Massachusetts to equal the flow of Niagara. The rivulets and streams are now being harnessed.

ALADDIN'S LAMP REVIVED.

The old mill-dams supplied power for the obsolete saw-mills in the eastern States; but the power can now be changed into electrical energy and transmitted any distance to the farms or villages. All through the eastern States the old mill-ponds are being repaired and used to generate electrical power. One case is mentioned at Lawyersville, New York, where a little farm plant consists of a 9-inch upright turbine of five horse-power, running with a fifteen-foot head. The dynamo, which is a four-horse power machine, will take care of sixty ordinary lights, will drive a milk separator, milk the cows, turn a grind-stone, fanning-mill or feed grinder, cut the ensilage, or drive a dozen other small machines. It is capable of doing the work of three hired men, and will furnish all the comforts of electric heat and light besides, at a very insignificant cost for maintenance. The installation costs something like this: dynamo £26, turbine water-wheel £12, water-wheel governor £15, line wire £13; total cost £70, less than the year's wage of a hired man.

WHAT A £10 DYNAMO DOES.

At another farm the farmer bought fifteen years ago for £10 a small dynamo and a quantity of electrical fixtures at a sale. He installed the dynamo in his saw-mill, and wired his own house for electricity. Every night since then this little generator has been producing a continuous current of electricity, with no further attention than occasional oiling, to light the large country home and all the out-buildings. A near-by church is also illuminated, and the streets of the tiny settlement are nightly ablaze with electric lights. The actual cost of this current is practically nothing. Dynamo and turbine paid for themselves more than a dozen years ago.

ELECTRIC MILKING.

The hamlet of East Worcester, with less than two hundred inhabitants, boasts all the comforts and conveniences of electricity, generated by an ancient saw-mill storage pond. Where farms are close together, near abundant water power, the farmers have erected a mutual plant and sell to distant neighbours. At Little Falls the milking is done by electric power, stables are electrically lighted, and small motors do the farm work.

YOKING WIND AND SUN.

In the great West, where water is scarce, farmers are utilising their windmills to generate current for light and power. A storage battery is provided to store away enough electricity to last a day or two in case the wind fails. Wind and water power are combined to fill a hydraulic accumulator, which develops current. In California the sun is harnessed to develop electrical power for farm work. Huge reflectors follow the course of the sun and focus the rays on a boiler. The steam is conveyed to a small engine which drives the generator. So in South America, Swiss valleys, tea and cotton fields in India, the African veldt, the farmers are beginning to use electricity for agricultural purposes. In the United States out of the 5,577 central stations supplying villages and cities, 4,357 exist in towns of less than 5,000 inhabitants.

RUSH FROM THE TOWNS.

The pendulum is swinging back now, and in place of a steady stream of country people pouring into the cities, the city people are flocking into the country:—

> The city men and women bring with them their love for city comforts, and, fortunately for the development of water-power, have not forgotten all their old-time hatred of farm work. Being infused with these new and advanced ideas, the country districts are making progress as never before. Telephone lines are stretching to nearly every farm all over the country. The pasture streams are being harnessed to do the farm work, blooded stock prevails, and crops are cultivated upon scientific principles. It is the young men who are doing these things—the young men with a modern education, their minds rich with the knowledge and enthusiasm of this progressive age.

URBANISING FARM LIFE.

So city comforts are obtained in country villages:—

> Good roads, good water, and plenty of cheap electricity for the interurban trolley, the electric lights and the motors combined with a wealth of pure air and fresh food, make the country an ideal place in which to live. The suburban areas about every city are creeping further and further into the rural districts. Each day the countryman becomes more citified as he rubs shoulders with his urban neighbour, and the things which once were thought extravagant luxuries for the wealthy city people are now deemed proper necessities to be enjoyed by all.
>
> Such are the magical changes brought to the country by electricity in the past fifteen years.

MUSIC AND ART IN THE MAGAZINES.

"WITHOUT CUTS."

RECENTLY Wagner's "Twilight of the Gods" was produced in its entirety and without alterations at Paris, and, says a writer in the first December number of *La Revue*, too little notice has been taken of this return to the normal state of things. But, as it has been said, the opera is to music something like what the Louvre is to painting and sculpture, and in an official and subsidised theatre due respect for works of art is imperative. M. Briand, also, takes this view, and in the instructions given to the new management he has caused these words to be inserted, "The directors may not cut up any work without the authorisation of the Minister and of the authors or their representatives."

GOETHE'S "FAUST" IN MUSIC.

At a recent charity performance at the Paris Opera the programme was made up of works inspired by Goethe's "Faust," writes Adolphe Boschot in the first December number of the *Correspondant*—selections from Gounod's "Faust," Berlioz's "Damnation de Faust," and Boïto's "Mephistofele," the Faust overture by Wagner, and a waltz by Liszt. Why was Spohr's "Faust" passed over? and, adds the writer, it was a singular injustice not to include a fragment of Schumann's "Faust" in the festival. No one could pretend that the programme would have been less interesting had Schumann replaced the Boïto excerpt. Berlioz's "Faust," continues the critic, is a spontaneous and sincere work of art; it is the melodic reflection of the composer, the expression of his most intimate emotions. When it was produced, in October, 1846, there seemed to be no public in Paris for the masterpiece, and the unfortunate composer, who had faith in his work, almost ruined himself by giving performances of it to empty halls. At the age of forty-three, at the zenith of his powers, and worn out by long struggles against the impossible, he began to realise that between him and the public there was an ever widening and deepening abyss. No sooner was he dead, however, than his "Faust" conquered the public. M. de Boschot gives a long and interesting analysis of the work.

NEW LETTERS BY WAGNER.

The mid-December number of the *Revue de Paris* inaugurates the publication of a new series of letters by Wagner—letters to Otto Wesendonk, 1852-1870. Though Wagner was obliged to leave Zurich in 1858, the friendly relations between him and the Wesendonk family continued uninterrupted. Immediately after his departure Wagner began the interesting series of letters addressed to Frau Wesendonk, which have already been published, and in the same year he resumed his correspondence with her husband. The *Revue de Paris* now gives us in French translation the most important of the letters written by Wagner to Herr Wesendonk. Several in 1855 are dated from London. In reference to the English at that time, he said art, properly so-called, was foreign to them. They were only concerned with personal successes and with their incomes. It was quite a revelation to him to see how they received all kinds of music with the same applause. The tone of such critics as Davison and Chorley he considered impertinent, and said they and others had not the capacity to judge him or even listen impartially to what he gave them to hear.

THE PAINTER OF THE MADONNA.

The December number of *Velhagen* contains an interesting article on Fra Bartolommeo, the painter of the Madonna. Professor Fritz Knapp, the writer, shows us a number of Madonnas painted by the famous monk—the Madonna appearing to St. Bernard, the Madonna between two Saints in the Cathedral at Lucca, the Madonna with Saints and the Pietà in the Pitti Palace at Florence, the Holy Family in the Corsini Gallery at Rome, etc. Fra Bartolommeo had much in common with Raphael, but in true inner religious feeling he stood above him. To understand the beauties of his art we are recommended to enter the artist's workshop and study his sketches. In his little cell in the monastery he created with pen and pencil the most charming pictures of the Madonna and Child, Angels, etc., all revealing his intense sympathies with children.

Photograph by [*Lambert Weston.*

Sir F. Paolo Tosti.

The well-known Song-writer. Knighted.

Random Readings from the Reviews.

WHAT MR. ROOSEVELT HAS DONE.

In any event, Mr. Roosevelt did his work. He restored the confidence of the people in their own Government, he enforced the laws, he uncovered and punished corruption, and he has raised the moral tone of both business and politics.—Senator LODGE, in the *North American Review*.

* * *

"REALLY CONVERTED."

"There are probably a larger number of really converted men and women in our midst to-day than there ever were before, and they are carrying on all over our land—many of them at any rate—conversion work in a thousand ways that were never thought of forty years ago." So says Canon Hay Aitken in the "Revival Memories" which he contributes to the *Churchman*. He laments the "sorrowful fact that there are still thousands of parishes in our land where no mission has ever been held." He thinks there are very few parishes that would not be better for a mission once in every four or five years at least.

* * *

"THE DEATH OF TRAGEDY."

Mr. Robb Lawson, in the *Oxford and Cambridge Review*, proclaims the death of Tragedy:—

Tragedy has fallen into disuse simply because the modern does not desire an ideal interpretation of the Universe and man's relation to it; but in his craving for reality, and actuated by the spirit of scepticism, demands a criticism of life through the medium of the play that thereby he may understand the limits of his own individuality. In the flourishing period of Tragedy it will be found that the art arose as a manifestation of the collective spirit. It was an æsthetic form in which the beliefs of the race were synthesised and submitted to the audience as a people; it exhibited their relationship either with the gods, or helped them to believe in the dignity of man. When individualism manifested itself, Tragedy died.

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DR. BUSCH AND TURKEY.

The December issue of the *Deutsche Rundschau* publishes an article, or "historical fragment," from amongst the posthumous political papers of Dr. Busch, the famous Under-Secretary of State. Ambassador Raschdau, who has edited it, says that Dr. Busch was admirably fitted for the task of writing a history of modern Turkey. He had spent many years at the Prussian Embassy at Constantinople, had mastered the Turkish language, and had acquired an extraordinary insight into all political matters relating to the Near East. For a quarter of a century he took a personal part in the affairs of Turkey, and he often entertained the idea of one day being able to write an account of his experiences at the Golden Horn. His death in 1895 put, however, an end to his dream. The paper now published relates to Turkey in 1875-6.

NO DEMOCRATS NEED APPLY.

In the forty-eight years which have elapsed since 1860, the Republicans have had complete control of the Government for thirty years, and in addition they have controlled one or more branches of the Government for sixteen. In other words, in forty-eight years the Democratic party has had complete control of the Government for only two.—Senator LODGE, in the *North American Review*.

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A GREATER CHINAMAN THAN CONFUCIUS.

In the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* Mr. E. H. Parker puts together the various scattered items found in history which go to make up the life of Tsz-ch'an.—

Tsz-ch'an was considered quite as great a man as Confucius, and had he found time amid the cares of State to gather a school round him, and indulge in abstract thought, as the officially unemployed Confucius did, he might easily have become China's standard sage instead of the latter. In many respects, indeed, he seems to have been a nobler, more democratic, and manlier character than Confucius; moreover, there is no indiscretion or weakness recorded against him at all.

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WOMEN IN INDUSTRIAL LIFE.

According to *La Revue* of December 1st, France is the country where women's industries are most developed, though the proportion of women engaged in industrial work does not seem to have much increased during the last fifty years. To-day, as half a century ago, the number of women engaged in industrial pursuits represents about one-third of the working population. Thus in 1895, while we find in the industrial population of France two men for every woman, the proportion in Belgium is three to one, and in Germany, England, and the United States four to one.

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GAMBETTA AND THE NATIONAL DEFENCE, 1870-1871.

The mid-December issue of the *Nouvelle Revue* is distinguished by the publication of letters and other unpublished documents by Gambetta relating to the National Defence of France, September 4th, 1870—February 6th, 1871. Every page and every line show his great love for France, the frenzy of sacrifice which subordinated everything to his country in its danger. Despair never entered his soul. Triumphing over the worst distress, Gambetta, by the mere ascendency of his words and the happy audacity of his initiative, became the incarnation of the national defence. "France is very low," he wrote to his father; "Paris itself seems to have lost its faculty for initiative. . . . As in the past, I shall pursue my way as a servitor convinced of the idea of justice, which is the basis of the French Revolution, and, notwithstanding the judgment of men, I shall do what my conscience

dictates." The documents are edited by P. B. Gheusi. Gambetta's letters to his father are also to be published in the *Nouvelle Revue* in the near future.

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A QUAINT TRIPLICE.

Mr. Keene, in the *Asiatic Quarterly Review*, recalls characteristics of Indian rule under the East India Company, and says :—

It is within the recollection of the present writer that proclamations by the public crier were introduced by that official in some such formula as the following: "The land is God's, the Sovereignty is the Emperor's, the administration is the Company's."

The formula tempts one to remark that of the three factors mentioned the third seems to have been the only one which obtained effective recognition. The pious and the political pretext only garnish the plutocratic reality. Still, it was something to have even the verbal recognition of the fact that "the land is God's." In this country it would doubtless be regarded as a dangerous Socialistic heresy.

* * *

ODIUM—ŒCONOMICUM.

Mr. J. Beattie Crozier thus relieves himself in the *Financial Review of Reviews* on Professor Marshall's "Memorandum on Fiscal Policy" :—

In a general way it may be characterised either as an expansion of that Free Trade Manifesto drawn up by himself and twelve of the other academical High Priests of Political Economy in 1903, over which the Press, both Free Trade and Protectionist, made itself so merry at the time, on account of its pontifical airs and its solemn platitudes; or it may be regarded, on the other hand, as a concentrated basketful of all the old dead Political Economy of the schools on this question of Free Trade and Protection, emptied on to the benches of the House of Commons in a heap! But in every way it is a most poor and unsatisfactory document—vague and evasive at the points where it ought to be most definite and precise; heavy, confused, and platitudinous throughout; and each of its separate propositions so worm-eaten with exceptions that you can find no solid footing anywhere as you go along.

* * *

KABUL IN WINTER

In the *Sunday Strand* appears an interesting article, by Mr. Angus Hamilton, on "Winter in the Ameer's Capital." It is plain that Kabul is not yet a popular winter resort, nor, if Habib Ullah can prevent it, will it ever become so. It is quite isolated for months at a time, the mountain passes over which all roads lead to it being blocked, and no caravans being able to get over them. There are only about half a dozen Europeans in Kabul, and the Ameer does not want any more; indeed, he seems to think these rather too many. It is easy to believe that "the social existence of Europeans in Kabul is very cheerless." Meal times in the winter are a distinct misfortune. All foodstuffs freeze solid; bread has to be chopped with an axe and drinking water broken with a hammer. Pickles, sauces, jams, and ink are better put away till the spring. Joints must be served piping hot from the fire and lying over a pan of glowing charcoal—even then the centre will probably be unthawed. There is certainly warm sun at midday, but otherwise there would appear to be few compensations for so rigorous a climate.

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THE ART OF PUBLIC SPEAKING.

Mr. W. T. Stead contributes to the *Windsor Magazine* a brief paper in which he says that the best way to acquire self-possession is to begin speaking early; without self-possession no one can be an effective public speaker. Cardinal Manning's advice to "be full of your subject and forget yourself" needs this qualification—that one must not be too full of one's subject, neither must one forget to *be* one's self, though it is certainly well to forget one's self. The most effective orator Mr. Stead ever heard was an Italian ex-friar, Gavazzi by name, who lectured in England when the writer was in his teens. Gavazzi made him understand what Demosthenes meant by insisting on action in delivery as the first, second and third secret of successful oratory. Gavazzi "was eloquent to his finger-tips and to the soles of his sandalled feet."

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SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE SONS OF THE RICH.

Dr. F. C. S. Schiller, in the *Oxford and Cambridge Review*, pleads for what he calls "eugenical scholarships." Against the argument that the scholarships intended for the poor have become the perquisites of the rich, he pleads that the prospect of such aids to learning helps to increase the number of children in the families of the professional and upper middle-classes — lawyers, doctors, parsons, schoolmasters. This prospect is needed at the time when the children are produced. At present, he says, "the race is dying out at the top," and will lose its superiority. "It is quite conceivable that in a couple of hundred years' time not only the Japanese and the Chinamen, but also the negro, may be the superior in sheer intellect of the cultivated European." To guard against this danger, the writer pleads that scholarships may still remain the perquisites of the rich. The confident assumption of the superiority of the classes which he eulogises to the poorer and more vigorous orders tempts a smile.

A GERMAN General has thought it would be possible and useful to make a series of revelations on the future Franco-German war, and his study has provoked considerable stir in competent circles. But in consequence of an order from his military superior, General X. was obliged to relinquish the publication of the latter part of his study treating of the pursuit of the French army. A French general has now edited and arranged the notes of General X. in an article published in *La Revue* of December 1st.

The Reviews Reviewed.

THE AMERICAN REVIEW OF REVIEWS.

Articles on social and economic themes form the feature of the January number. Mr. Macphail on Canada's view of tariff revision and Mr. D. C. Shafer's account of the electrification of the villages have been separately noticed. Mr. Curtis Lakeman describes the result of the New York State Water Supply Commission, which was appointed to undertake a critical survey and estimate of the water powers of the Empire State. The Commission has made several important projects of construction for storing water and creating water power. Wisconsin is taking action, as also the province of Ontario. The reasons for State supervision of this important accessory to life are given.

Miss Jean Masson takes occasion from the liberation of Abbas Effendi to recount the extraordinary advance of Bahaism, which claims to be the ultimate religion.

Mr. P. N. Kellogg shows how the Pittsburg Exhibition of social and economic conditions prevailing in its midst to-day is a valuable incentive to a new campaign for civic betterment.

Agnes C. Laut favourably discusses the Salvation Army method of emigrating the unemployed of England.

THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW.

The *North American Review* for December opens with a paper by Cabot Lodge upon the results of the Presidential election. He is, of course, supremely satisfied with the latest demonstration that the American nation will not have the Democrats at any price. The most important article in the number, however, is W. D. Howells's tribute to Tolstoy, which is noticed elsewhere.

A VINDICATION OF SIR LANCELOT.

Miss May Child, in an article entitled "The Weird of Sir Lancelot," repels the aspersions that have been cast upon the love which Sir Lancelot bore for Queen Guinevere. According to Miss Child, the true version of the affair is that Queen Guinevere was a spotless lady to whose name no scandal ever attached, and Sir Lancelot worshipped her as if she were a goddess in the sky. The article is an interesting one, and it is comforting to think that Sir Thomas Malory and Lord Tennyson may have been entirely mistaken in attributing an earthly and sinful element to the ideal devotion of Sir Lancelot to the Queen of Arthur's Court.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE IN CONGO LAND.

Mr. John Daniels, writing on the Congo question, has no hesitation in declaring that America and England must stand together in order to compel the Belgians to put an end to the horrors introduced by King Leopold for purposes of gain. He says:—

> Such action would either induce Belgium to revise the articles of transfer in compliance with American and British demands, or would compel an international conference. If, even after the deliberations and expositions of this conference, Belgium should still be unwilling to undertake the administration of the Congo on conditions consistent with humanity, either some form of international control, carrying out the ideal expressed in 1885, when the Free State was founded, or partition among the Powers holding contiguous territory in Africa would have to be adopted as a remedy of last resort.

CHINESE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. S. W. Nickerson, Chinese Consul at Boston, thinks that the policy of America towards the Chinese is likely to be modified in accordance with the commercial needs and humanitarian principles of the American nation. He says:—

> This generation of Americans has no right to longer impede the development of the great commerce possible across the Pacific, and thereby obstruct the future welfare of those who are to come after us. Chinese labourers might be digging the Panama Canal, which lies in a climate inhospitable to the white race; they might be developing the Philippine Islands, which also lie in an inhospitable climate; but, instead, they are likely to turn to the development of Mongolia and Manchuria.

THE REAL ENTITY OF THE UNIVERSE.

Judge Grosscup, in an article entitled "God, Man, and Immortality," sets forth the reasons which have led him to arrive at the conclusion that the materialistic theory of the universe is all mistaken. Looking out upon the world, he finds man the point toward which everything in Nature is directed; man the point upon which everything in the Moral World is centred:—

> And through it all, in the consciousness of mankind, as the ever-recurring note that forms the key to the composition, the persistent insight that, behind all this, there is an Intelligence, and a Love, that only the acceptance of man as the child of God can account for. So all we have to do is to recognise these voices as facts within the realm of Science, and we will begin to see that *behind* the material body is something apart from the material body—something that, while speaking *through* the body as the instrument now at hand, is infinitely above the material body—Soul, not body, the real entity of the universe.

Other writers discuss subjects more of American interest, such as Public Schools, the Solvency of Savings-banks, and the Problem of the Navy *Personnel*. The letters from World Capitals and the reviews form, an interesting part of the number.

The *Sunday at Home* opens with a prettily-illustrated account of the Marquis of Northampton's various beautiful country seats and of his manifold activities. Another, but a short article, is upon a Woman's Daily Newspaper, published and edited by Mrs. Chang, a Peking lady of advanced and liberal views. The *Peking Woman's News*, though only launched in 1905, has, the writer tells us, already become a power in aristocratic Peking.

THE CONTEMPORARY REVIEW.

THE *Contemporary*, besides the article on "The Arrival of the Slavs," noticed elsewhere, publishes Dr. Dillon's vivacious sketch of the development of the Eastern crisis, and an article by Miss Durham on the Serb and Albanian frontier, which I also notice elsewhere.

GERMAN AND ENGLISH LITERATURES.

Professor Richard M. Meyer writes an admirable essay on the causes of the ignorance in England of German literature. It is not a paper to be summarised. I confine myself to one extract on the failure of Germans to appreciate English lyrical poetry:—

The share of English lyricists in this German Pantheon of song-singers is remarkably small, particularly that of the moderns. Swinburne, surely a great lyric poet, is hardly known; Tennyson is liked, but not prized in nearly so high a degree as in England; Coleridge is forgotten. And, most of all, it will surprise the Englishman that his favourite Wordsworth has absolutely nothing to say, has no meaning for us. With the solitary exceptions of Herder in his old days and of the celebrated literary historian Bernays, I do not know a single German reader on whom the lyrics of the great Master of the Lake School has made any deep impression.

This is the German's one weak spot. As for the English appreciation of German literature, it is all weak spots, and Professor Meyer patiently endeavours to explain why.

THE KAISER AND GERMAN ART.

Eulenspiegel, in a paper on this subject, says:—

The monuments and statues with which Berlin has of late years been so liberally endowed are, for the most part, stiff and ultra-conventional. It is not surprising, therefore, that there should be a feeling that the Kaiser's ideals of art, in themselves lofty, but unchastened by contradiction and stunted in their growth by deprivation of the light and air of free discussion, have been allowed to degenerate into a mere didactic instrument. The interference of the Crown in æsthetic matters grates on the nation's feelings the more for that the inclinations of the German are rather for art than politics. The controversy, although the first heat has slackened with the lapse of years, is still smouldering, and the historian will have to gauge its effects on the relations between Emperor and people in William II.'s illustrious reign.

OTHER ARTICLES.

Dr. J. Rendel Harris has a learned paper on the "Cult of the Heavenly Twins," which has nothing to do with Mrs. Sarah Grand's novel, but deals with the Dioscuri, who presided over lighthouses and navigation. Dr. Round explains and demolishes the new Anglican argument as to the continuity of the English Church, and "Musæus" in the literary supplement discourses on Christmas and the Elder Gods in a fashion that makes one feel that Santa Claus is but the youngest grandchild of a long line of Pagan ancestors.

THE *Windsor Magazine* contains a long illustrated article by Mr. Frank Bullen upon "The Romance of Wreck-raising." Those who wish to know the details of modern wreck-salving, and in particular how the *Gladiator* was salved, should read this paper.

THE WORLD'S WORK.

THE *World's Work* for January is a first-class number. Mr. Rockefeller on "Trusts" in charity and Mr. Carnegie on Socialism are enough to stamp the number with distinction. With them, papers on the flying machine in war and on the contest for ocean supremacy have been separately noticed. The editor, in his political survey, says we are living in "a day of great causes and small men," but thinks that in the personality of the Prime Minister we may find the strong man that the nation is waiting for.

LONDON'S NEW LAKE.

"Home Counties" describes under this heading the reservoir between Ponder's End and Enfield Lock. It will consist of 416 acres, twenty-six acres larger than Hyde Park. The cost is £340,859. The contractors are bound to build an impervious bank firmly united to the London clay which underlies the reservoir. There will be a capacity of three thousand million gallons, and the pumping machinery will be equal to lifting two hundred million gallons a day.

JAPANESE INVASION OF U.S.A.

Mr. Thornton Prosser gives the Western view of the Japanese. It is said that there are not less than 250,000 Japanese in the Pacific Coast States and British Columbia. They are apt, alert and business-like, quick, diligent at school, and bent on gaining control of various industries. They are negotiating with the American working men to enter their Unions. But with their cheap ways of living, the Japanese could save the greater part of their income and eventually buy out their employers. However wishful to appear to assimilate, the Japanese remain aliens in fact. Mingling modern ideas with their ancient religion, they have planned a Buddhist temple in Seattle with a gymnasium on the floor below the worship-room set apart for the idol of Buddha. The aggressiveness of the Japanese has all but driven American ships off the Pacific.

OPEN-AIR SCHOOLS.

Mr Holden Byles gives an admirable description of the open-air schools at Charlottenburg and elsewhere. He says that both physically and educationally they have justified their existence. They have proved themselves to be most efficient agents in character-building. The healthy body is given not only a healthy mind, but also a healthy character. He speaks highly of the London County Council open-air schools at Kentish Town and Forest Hill.

THE chief article in *Lippincott's Magazine* is upon Edgar Allan Poe, the centenary of whose birth occurs on January 19th. Poe, says the writer, "was the first American author to gain an international reputation of any value." Yet it has not, according to him, been possible to arrive at a consistent estimate of Poe's character—its morbidity, abnormality (in a certain sense), its isolation, its artisticness.

THE FORTNIGHTLY REVIEW.

THE *Fortnightly Review* opens the New Year with a capital number. Its contents are varied, topical, and, with the exception of Mr. Low's "Future of Parties in the United States," which was written before the election of Mr. Taft, thoroughly up to date.

A PROTEST AGAINST POLITICAL NONCONFORMITY.

"A Nonconformist Minister" publishes a plea that Nonconformity should mind its own business and keep to its own particular line:—

It is a noble business, an exalted line. And Nonconformity, in its awakening, must surely flush with shame to think that while for many a year it has been making numerous and ardent politicians, it has made scarce any saints. For this is the true summing-up of the situation—and its bitter irony too. The service of man is an essential part of goodness itself, and the Church must say so. But it is not the Church's task to indicate along what lines the service is to be rendered. The deciding of that question devolves upon the Church-member when he quits the plane of Churchmanship for the plane of citizenship. The "; ought" is to seize upon him *within* the Church. The "how"—the method—is an affair for *without* the Church.

But suppose it were proposed to worship Moloch by human sacrifices in Trafalgar Square, would "A Nonconformist Minister" say that the method of preventing this should not be taken in hand by the Church acting as a Church?

"THE BLESSINGS OF NAVAL ARMAMENTS."

"Excubitor," in an article bearing this title, dwells upon the employment afforded to labour by naval expenditure. He says:—

The labour value of a *Dreadnought* is probably nearly 10,000,000 men-hours; there are yet no precise figures. That means about 10,000 men could, on such a ship, find employment for 1,000 hours; or, assuming the work to be done within two years, we have full employment during that period for quite 2,000 men. Practically the whole amount voted annually by Parliament for the maintenance of the Navy is distributed in payment of more or less skilled labour. Apart from officers and men of the Fleet numbering 128,000, and upwards of 50,000 reservists, the naval authorities employ in the Royal Dockyards, victualling yards, hospitals, and ordnance stores an army of 35,000 workers, not excluding a number of women, in a multitude of separate trades, and they are part employers also of the large staff at Woolwich and other arsenals engaged in the manufacture of ordnance.

DANIEL DEFOE.

A brilliant literary article by John Masefield is devoted to the author of "Robinson Crusoe." He says:—

Like all well-known writers, Defoe was an abundant writer. He wrote almost every day (with great fluency) for nearly fifty years, producing in that time about a hundred and fifty known works, many of them, such as "The Journal of a Tour," "The History of the Union," and the complete "Robinson Crusoe," extremely long books; and many others, though extremely mere tracts and pamphlets, such as "Conjugal Lewdness," as long as an ordinary novel; besides several millions of words of daily journalism, now mercifully buried under our own cataract of the same. Defoe is read by schoolboys and kitchenmaids, by sailors, by seekers after dirt, and by a few historical students. His popularity is a proof of the commonness of his vision. His inner eye never beheld the singing spirits, rushing in fire, "with all the fury of spiritual existences." He beheld, instead, a broken-down mariner alone on an island, a penitent whore in Newgate, and a little dirty pickpocket asleep on an ash-heap.

OTHER ARTICLES.

"Auditor Tantum," writing on "The Opposition in the Commons," says:—"The present quality of the party both on the Front Bench and the back benches is poor beyond parallel in recent political history. The 'old gang' is just as ineffective as in Lord Randolph's day, and the ragged fusillade that comes from the unofficial Opposition leaves the Ministry unscathed." Mr. J. A. R. Marriott reviews and praises highly Mr. Lowell's book on "The Government of England." Miss Jane A. Harrison describes with enthusiasm Mr. Frazer's researches into the Origin of Kingship, which he discovers not in the strength of the soldier, but in the magic power of the medicine-man:—"The king is the head medicine-man, and—delightful thought—the regalia are his fetiches, his conjuring apparatus, his wonder-working talismans, the possession of which *carries with it the right to the throne.* Here really it is the regalia who reign, and the princes who merely represent them." Mr. Filson Young eulogises John Davidson as the originator of "The New Poetry." The Editor contributes a pathetic thought-stirring poem entitled "Ransom."

THE STRAND.

THE *Strand Magazine* contains an article by Mr. Edward Whymper upon "Mountaineering Tragedies," a small selection of the very best known instances being taken. The tragedies described occurred mostly upon the Matterhorn and Mont Blanc. The famous Meije accident is not mentioned; but the article is short, and much space is occupied by illustrations. From Mr. Whymper's account of the Matterhorn accident, where Lord Francis Douglas and the famous guide, Michel Croz, lost their lives, it is evident that he thinks the catastrophe was due to one incompetent person having been taken.

Mr. G. R. Sims continues his reminiscences. One letter reached him safely which was simply addressed to "Dagonet"—his well-known *Referee* pseudonym. Nothing else, no locality given.

Another article is a description of how the late Victorien Sardou wrote his plays. A play usually took him three or four months, and he always wrote at Marly-le-Roi, not very far from Paris, writing all the morning, and receiving no one till after three in the afternoon, when his work for the day was over.

THE *Sunday Strand*, which begins the New Year very well, publishes the first of a series of papers dealing with the great Municipal Libraries of England. The Manchester libraries are selected for the opening paper, the most interesting part of which is the talk with the chief librarian of the Free Reference Library. His statements as to the results of popular education are pessimistic. He thinks public taste has greatly deteriorated, and that people are less able to read continuously—the effect, of course, of "snippety" publications.

THE NATIONAL REVIEW.

MR. MAXSE, of all men in the world, now sheds tears of compassion over the Kaiser—surely the last drop in the cup of Imperial misfortune. In the *National Review* for January he informs his nominal leaders that when they next return to office they must only have a Cabinet of twelve, and he is good enough to nominate seven of the future colleagues of Mr. Balfour and Lord Lansdowne. Only three seats are thus left vacant. The Maxsean Ministers are Lord Milner, Lord Curzon, Lord Newton, Lord Percy, Mr. Bonar Law, Sir Edward Carson, and Mr. Hewins!

Sir F. Younghusband, who has just made a rapid run across Europe to Constantinople and the Levant, reports that "On the spot the general opinion among men in the street is that, with so much loose powder lying about, war in the spring is almost a probability."

Mr. Herbert W. Horwill, in an entertaining article on the provincialism of the Americans, says that megalomania has generated myopia. The American "forgets that the real advantage of being untrammelled by the past is largely forfeited when one is content to remain untaught by it also."

Miss Simkins makes public moan over the Suffragettes. She says that she—

> is a woman worker who has endeavoured to the best of her ability to combine first teaching and then historical research with housekeeping. A twenty years' experience of steady work has led her to the conclusion that it will be a cruelty to impose on women of her class the triple burden of wage-earning, housekeeping, and political responsibility.

Poor thing! why does she burden herself with historical research? It probably takes more out of her than voting once in six years at a General Election.

Sir W. R. Anson repeats his objection to the Irish University Act:—

> Opposition has been bought off by money and by concessions, but the result of the whole transaction is disappointing. The College at Cork may at no distant date develop into an independent University. The College at Galway may possibly prove more attractive henceforth to the Roman Catholic laity in its neighbourhood. But the future of the University and College at Dublin is compromised by their subordination to a theological seminary, and if Mr. Birrell's achievement is to be recorded in a monument the site of that monument should be Maynooth.

The Lady's Realm.

THE *Lady's Realm* for January is even lighter than the Christmas Number. The chief article—and that is very short—deals with Mlle. Miropolsky, the girl advocate, who has been pleading with such success in Paris, and who, judging from her portrait, has an exceedingly charming face, with much character in it. She is only twenty-one now, it seems, and certainly the French barrister's cap or toque is remarkably becoming to her. It is, so far, chiefly if not entirely women's causes which she has pleaded, and she seems always to have been victorious in her plea that the quality of mercy should not be strained.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

THE January number is full of varied matter, generally dealing with current political topics.

THE CENTENARY OF EDGAR ALLAN POE.

Edgar Allan Poe was born in Boston on January 19th, 1809, and Mr. Lewis Melville gives a centenary appreciation. He says, "The supreme example of his muse is 'Annabel Lee,' with its spirituality, its pathos, and its tenderness wonderfully brought out through the simplicity of the style and the exquisite music and the haunting strains of the verse." He further remarks that "with Poe literature was a religion, and as such to be treated with the greatest respect. He never forced his gift, even when he was in dire penury."

WANTED, A RAILWAY TO INDIA.

Mr. C. E. D. Black takes occasion from the completion of the pilgrim railway to Medina to urge that a select Committee should be appointed to examine into the project of a railway from Port Said across the neck of Arabia to Basra, at the head of the Persian Gulf, and thence to Nushki and Quetta, in India. This route to India from Port Said would be only 2,200 miles, as against the sea route to Bombay of 3,050 miles, or 2¼ days against 9½ days. Reckoning the cost of construction at £6,000, with three millions for rolling stock, the writer reckons the total cost would be £16,200,000, considerably less than the cost of the Suez Canal.

THE SCARE OF INVASION.

Two papers make out that this Island is in a sadly undefended condition. Major-General F. S. Russell backs up Lord Roberts's contention, and urges that though universal compulsory service for home defence cannot now be expected from the public, universal military training for all our youths should be adopted. He also presses for a naval canal from the Forth to the Clyde, which would be a "bolt-hole" for our ships at Rosyth.

Earl Erroll expatiates on our military weakness, and declares that instead of 90,000 additional men being provided by Mr. Haldane, we really have 80,000 men and 3,000 officers less to draw upon than we had three years ago. Lady Paget contributes entertaining reminiscences of the Court of Berlin in the fifties.

THE two principal articles in the *Woman at Home* are chatty papers, of the ever popular order, upon Mr. and Mrs. Jerome at home in their country house at Wallingford, and upon Sir Frederick Bridge, who seems, judging from the account given of him, to be an inveterate punster. None of the instances of his wit, however, are quite good enough to quote. Mr. Jerome, it is not surprising to learn, is rather a silent man by nature, and keenly observant. He sometimes says that he has been everything except a bank clerk. His views on American women are quoted, showing that he is less severe upon them than some other critics, notably some feminine critics, have been.

THE ITALIAN REVIEWS.

THE *Rassegna Nazionale* (December) contains a number of very readable articles. There is an extremely important summary of British and Italian commercial returns, repeating the familiar tale of how English imports are being driven out by German. Already, within the last few years, England has dropped to the second place, and this although the great bulk of her imports consist of coal, iron and other raw material. In manufactured goods she is not only far behind Germany, but has dangerous rivals in France and Austria and even in Belgium and Switzerland. German manufacturers visit Italy, study its needs with their own eyes, organise banking facilities, and arrange to carry on their correspondence with Italy in Italian. English manufacturers, as a rule, do none of these things, and they are further handicapped by high wages, and by our system of weights and measures.

The distinguished author, G. Grabinski, who has always been known as a liberal Catholic, protests against the *Lega Democratica Nazionale*—a society of hot-headed young Catholics, founded by Don Romolo Murri—adopting a professedly anti-clerical programme, as that, in his opinion, leads rapidly to opposing everything promoted by ecclesiastical authority. He advocates a policy of moderation, and points out the incompatibility between Socialism and Catholicism. Dr. Franceschi urges the need of greater cleanliness and better ventilation in churches, and exposes the special bacteria dangers that lurk in confessionals and in the use of holy water unless special antiseptic precautions are taken. He recommends a course of simple but up-to-date hygiene for all seminarists. Barbara Wick Allason contributes a charming biographical sketch of a German poetess of last century, Luisa Hensel, a pathetic and romantic figure, the friend of Brentano, and a convert from Lutheranism to Catholicism.

In the *Nuova Antologia*, Maggiorino Ferraris continues his energetic campaign for building a vast new residential quarter for Rome on the Piazza d'Armi, and shows a variety of plans. Rome, it seems, already has a deficiency of 20,000 rooms; therefore to provide 100,000 rooms, as is suggested, is scarcely in excess of immediate needs, allowing for the present rapid growth of population. Ferraris believes that the whole scheme could be undertaken by co-operative building societies on a sound financial basis, if only the Government and Municipality would grant reasonable facilities, and he quotes with approval the example of Genoa, where some 4,000 rooms have been erected within a few years by a single building society.

The learned quarterly, *Rivista di Scienza*, continues to supply weighty articles in four languages. The new number leads off with a fifty page summary in Italian of scientific thought in the nineteenth century; Professor Meillet writes in French on the development of language; F. le Dantec discusses the transmission of acquired characters, and J. Bonar, of Ottawa, exposes in English a Protectionist fallacy concerning Home and Foreign trade. There is also a laudatory review of Professor A. Thomson's recent work on Heredity.

The *Civiltà Cattolica* in honour of the recent Papal jubilee summarises the various activities of Pius X. during the five years of his pontificate. The Modernist controversy has so overshadowed other matters that it is as well to remind the outside world that the reigning Pontiff, whom his detractors speak of as an ignorant peasant, has reformed Church music throughout the Catholic world, has inaugurated the much-needed codification of canon law, and has thoroughly reorganised the Roman Congregations.

La Lettura has a pleasantly gossipy article on the abbey churches of Yorkshire by an Italian tourist, together with the now familiar complaints of the discomfort of English beds and bedrooms.

The most interesting literary article in the *Rassegna Contemporanea* describes in detail the unedifying relations between Sainte-Beuve, Victor Hugo, and Madame Hugo.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.

Blackwood's opens with a paper upon the Young Turks, which, being professedly historical, does not contain much that is particularly new; but it puts the story of their rise in such a clear way that it gives a much better idea of the movement than some other articles on the subject. The writer remarks that it is credibly stated that in the last decade no fewer than 30,000 educated Turks have fled the country or been banished. Abdul Hamid he regards as essentially a coward. As for the Young Turks, though at first few, if any, persons realised their vitality and importance, he says their Committee is probably the most remarkable directing board the world has ever seen. It is absolutely impersonal, having no leader, no group of leaders, party or faction. In the Young Turks' campaign of propaganda two things are chiefly remarkable: the rapidity with which it made ground, and the secrecy of its growth. So secret was the movement indeed that the Yildiz Palace spies themselves did not find out what was going on, and it "quite upset the calculations of all Europeans who were intimately connected with Turkey."

The Duke of the Abruzzi's book on Ruwenzori is very well reviewed, notice being taken also of all former attempts upon the Mountains of the Moon, beginning with Mr. Freshfield's in 1905, which failed because of the appallingly bad weather encountered. Ruwenzori, says the writer, is not so much a climber's as a traveller's problem; it is not so very difficult when one is there, but the thing is to get there. Some of the Alpine flowers on its lower slopes—the lobelias and helichrysums—must be lovely indeed.

There is an interesting travel paper also upon "Tiflis to Constantinople, *viâ* the Black Sea Ports."

THE DUTCH REVIEWS.

Vragen des Tijds publishes an essay on the Comparative Value of a Yearly Budget and the practice in some countries of a financial discussion every two years. In the latter case the Ministers are spared the wear and tear of the work of getting a Budget through Parliament every twelve months; the legislative body has a rest and can devote all its time every alternate year to the passing of beneficial measures, although it has occasionally to vote supplementary estimates. On the other hand, the annual Budget is regarded as a distinct advantage for the country.

A readable account of a journey in Norway, in *De Gids*, commences with a comparison of Swedish and Norwegian circumstances. On crossing the frontier one is struck by the difference in the train service and comforts; the Swedish trains are quick, there is a very good dining-car, and the carriages are pleasant to ride in, but the Norwegian are slow, the restaurant car is not at all on a level with those over the border, and the carriages are not conducive to easy travelling.

There is the inevitable contribution on national defence and what ought to be done; the navy should be able to protect the seaboard, while the army should be strong enough to preserve the neutrality of Holland and to keep out possible invaders. The fortresses want attention; Amsterdam must be well fortified; but one must not overlook the fact that there are other parts of the kingdom that need strengthening. There is a sketch of the rule of Count Floris V. from 1256 to 1296. These Dutch Counts were practically vassals of England for a long period: a predecessor of Floris V. paid homage to King John, and Floris himself sent an uncle to London in 1257, shortly after his accession, to pay homage by proxy. Floris V. assisted Edward I. in various ways, and in 1281 his daughter was married to a son of Edward at Westminster. In another part of *De Gids* is an article on "Darwinism *v.* Wallaceism."

Onze Eeuw also appears with a military contribution; the Dutch are exercised in mind about their army and navy, for we find articles on those subjects every month. The training of cadets is dealt with this month; the writer suggests new methods which may not be viewed with favour by the officers, for the training on his lines would be "stiff." The history of the small Sultanate of Boeton is traced in another article; it is to be found in the south-east of Celebes, and promises to be a profitable colony if the Dutch take care of it.

The illustrations to the sketch of a journey through the island of Bali, in *Elsevier*, are quaint enough to command the attention of the reader, quite apart from the text, which is well worthy of perusal. This contribution is followed by an account of the work of a Dutch artist, Marie de Roode-Heijermans, with reproductions of her pictures. Next comes a description of a church at Breda. Finally, "Nature Photography" shows us various nests in queer places and the like.

THE SPANISH REVIEWS.

RAILWAY development in Spain, according to a writer in *Nuestro Tiempo*, is arrested by reason of the conditions upon which the lines (or some of them) were originally constructed. The State granted a concession for ninety-nine years, and the stipulation was made that when the fixed period had expired the lines should be handed over to the State without payment. The concession also stipulated that the lines, with a certain quantity of rolling-stock and certain buildings, should become the property of the State. The owners of the lines have made various extensions and have constructed other, or better, buildings than those mentioned in the agreement, but as the period has run more than half its length, the owners are thinking that it is not worth while to spend more of their meagre profits in improvements for which they will receive no return. Thus, it is well known that the station at Barcelona is inadequate, but there is no inclination to build another. This condition of affairs means that the development of the country is also gravely affected.

España Moderna gives an account of the cession of the two Floridas by Spain to the United States one hundred years ago. This is another article in which we can detect the idea that Spain has been "squeezed" by the United States of *North* America, as the Spaniards are often particular to designate the great Republic. In 1809, we read, the Americans began openly to injure Spain, when they refused to recognise Onis, sent as plenipotentiary; then, taking advantage of the conditions existing in the Peninsula, the President ordered that possession should be taken of Western Florida, on the ground that it was an integral part of Louisiana, but adding that the United States would hold it subject to friendly negotiation. Piracy against Spanish commerce was openly practised in the following years: France did not help Spain, and the States refused the mediation of England, so it was ultimately decided that Spain should give up the Floridas for fear of forcing hostilities for which she was not prepared. Spain owed a debt, which was increasing every year, so Onis counselled making an arrangement whereby Spain would at least reap some advantage from the cession of the Floridas, pointing out that she might otherwise have to cede them later on and pay the debt also, if she declined the proposal then made.

La Lectura has a long article on curious historical and other facts of the eighth, ninth, and tenth centuries. For instance, it was always customary to go to Mass before breakfast, and there is a legend of one of the Alfonsos that he met three angels in disguise while on his return from Mass, and on their asking him for work, he commanded a magnificent gold and bejewelled cross to be made. He sat down to breakfast and the cross was brought to him, quite finished, as he rose from the table. That was a miracle which revealed the identity of the three men.

BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

THE POWER OF THINGS UNSEEN.*

"THE things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal."—*St. Paul's Epistle to the Corinthians II., iv.* 18.

I.—A FOUR-SENSE WORLD.

LET us suppose that all the children of men were born with closed eyes, and that the whole race lived and died without ever being able to raise an eyelid. Men would under these conditions have lived in a four-sense world. The classic instance of Helen Keller, born blind and deaf, shows that existence is possible even for those who live in a three-sense world. Mankind would have adapted itself to its conditions. Smell, touch, taste and hearing would have enabled them to evolve some kind of a civilisation, even though they lived in the perpetual darkness of those on whose optic nerve the light rays never fall.

Suppose, further, that somehow, somewhere, somewhen, among the myriad dwellers on this planet, one man or woman at intervals of a generation, of a century, or of a millennium contrived to raise their eyelids and see. In a moment there would swim upon their ken not one lambent planet, but all the heretofore unimaginable glories of the stellar universe. They would see for the first time "these forms of beauty" which had been to them "as is a landscape to a blind man's eye." They would feel—

> A sense sublime
> Of something far more subtly interfused,
> Whose dwelling is the light of setting suns,
> And the round ocean and the living air,
> And the blue sky . . . all that we behold
> From this green earth ; of all the mighty world
> Of eye——

But when they attempted to explain these glories to their fellows with the lid-closed eyes, they would find themselves utterly unable to describe what they had seen, for the language of a four-sense world would afford no terms in which to set forth the contents of the "mighty world of Eye." Colour, for instance, and light, the spacious firmament, the sun, the moon, the vast and ever-changing panorama of the clouds—how could they describe them to men who could hear, touch, taste and smell, but who could not see? If they made the attempt they would expose themselves to ridicule always, to persecution often. For they would deny that the world was dark, or that the surface of the earth was the entire universe. They would proclaim the discovery of a new world, radiant and glorious, sublime and infinite beyond the loftiest imaginings of the closed-eyed race. But if asked where it was, they could only declare that it was all around them. Not another world, but the same world, revealed in a new and entrancing aspect. "Where is it," the scoffers would sneer, "this new world of which you speak? Can we hear it? Can we touch it? Can we smell it? Can we taste it? You admit that we can do none of these things. Then how can you expect us to believe that it exists? Verily all the laws of science, and all the canons of our most sacred religion compel us to proclaim you as an impudent liar or a poor deluded lunatic, if indeed we ought not to put you to death as an impious blasphemer!"

Yet all the while these arrogant sciolists of the four-sense world would be warmed by the rays of the sun whose existence they denied, and would be spending their lives among the flowers whose fragrance they enjoyed but whose gorgeous colours they could not understand. Hence the Man of the Open Eye would in self-defence hold his peace. But the knowledge which his vision gave him would enable him to understand many things hidden from his fellows. He would be able to run where they felt their way, and he would be able to see the goal clearly towards which they groped and fumbled. He would be able to lay down straight paths on land, and to chart the unfathomed seas. To him, as the seer, would be given the faculty of perceiving the working of law, where his four-sensed fellows had blundered up against an utterly incomprehensible confusion. His sayings would become the guide-book of generations, the Book of the Law which all wise men would obey. If he escaped with his life from the Conservatives who revolted against his topsy-turvy notions, the probability is that in days to come he would be worshipped as a god.

All that is obvious enough. What is not less obvious to the reflecting mind is that just as the Man with the Open Eye must of necessity have been deemed a madman or a liar at first by those men who could not open their eyelids, and afterwards would have been accorded divine honours by those who profited by the application to the four-sense world of the wisdom which lies open to those who possessed the fifth sense, so in the history of the world those who possess

1.* "The Maid of France," by Andrew Lang. 378 pp. 12s. 6d. Longman (Illus.)
2. "Alms of St. Francis," by Mrs. Robert Goff. Illustrated in colours by Colonel Goff. 200 pp. 21s. Chatto and Windus.
3. "Nietzsche, His Life and Work," by M. A. Mügge. 442 pp. 10s. Fisher Unwin.
4. "The Wisdom of Plotinus," by C. T. Whitby. 131 pp. 2s. W. Rider and Son.
5. "Plotinus on the Beautiful." Sixth Treatise of the First Ennead. Translated by Stephen Mackenna. 2s. 6d. Shakespeare Head Press, Stratford-on-Avon.
6. "Men of the Covenant," by Alex. Smellie, D.D. 2 vols. 31s. 6d. Edition de Luxe illustrated on vellum papers. A. Melrose.
7. "Semitic Magic." Oriental Religions Series No. 3. 284 pp. 10s. 6d. Luzac.
8. "Highland Second Sight," by Morrison and Macrae. 262 pp. 3s. 6d. Souter, Kingwell.
9. "Thoughts of a Modern Mystic. Writings of C. C. Massey." 227 pp. 3s. 6d. With preface by Professor Barrett.
10. "Essays on Theosophy," by J. E. Taylor. 68 pp. Swan Sonnenschein.
11. "The Way of Initiation, or, How to Attain Knowledge of the Higher Worlds," by R. Steiner. 3s. 6d. Theosophical Publishing Society.

a Sixth Sense must inevitably meet with the same fate. Of this we have just now the most apposite illustration in the preparations that are being made for the canonisation of Jeanne d'Arc, whom Church and State united to burn to death as a sorceress. For those gifted with the sixth sense see the things unseen which are eternal, and hear the Word of Might which falls unheeded on the deaf ear of the human race.

II.—SIXTH-SENSE FOLK.

"The Maid of France" is the title which Mr. Andrew Lang has given to his "Story of the Life and Death of Jeanne d'Arc," which appears opportunely when the ceremonial of Beatification at Rome is still fresh in the mind. Mr. Lang is a Scotchman, and therefore, so far as the author is concerned, this admirable volume can hardly be regarded as a sin-offering made by the descendants of the perpetrators of the foulest crime, save one, in history. But as it is the first book in the English language which supplies a succinct, authentic, scholarly history of Jeanne d'Arc, it may be accepted as a belated homage paid by the nation which murdered the fair saint, as her Beatification is a *mea culpa* and a tardy atonement on the part of the Church which sent her to the stake.

The Pope, it is said, has been satisfied that Jeanne d'Arc has quite recently worked miracles, three of which—the release of pious women from incurable diseases—are duly specified. To these may now be added a fourth in the miracle which "the Maid of France" has wrought in that very unregenerate son of Adam, Mr. Andrew Lang, who in this book appears as the deformed transformed. Among diseases of the intellect the spirit of supercilious arrogance is almost as incurable as cancer, and the dogmatical self-assurance of the pedant is as insidious a malady as tuberculosis. But behold a wonder in the heavens! Mr. Andrew Lang, who has long been smitten with both these maladies, and grievously afflicted, no sooner touches the hem of the garment of the wonder-working Maid of Orleans than we find him healed and in his right mind. He is even humble and reverential, instead of flippant and superior—an altogether new creature—over whom we do well to rejoice while we may. For miraculous cures are not always permanent, and there may be a relapse.

The work of sifting the actual facts from the mass of rumour, legend, and misrepresentation has been carefully performed by Mr. Lang; but I am not so much concerned with the historical accuracy of his story of the Maid as with the clear testimony which he offers as to the reality of her visions and the objectivity of her voices. Whatever else may be doubtful about Jeanne's meteoric career, the one thing certain is that she saw things which others did not see and heard voices inaudible by others. She had the Sixth Sense. And what Mr. Lang labours much to bring out she also had in a pre-eminent degree—that Seventh Sense called Common because it is so rare. "She retained her normal common sense even when in the presence of her Saints, in what we might reckon an abnormal condition." Mr. Lang says:—

> We always find Jeanne keenly alive to her surroundings, very vigilant and observant. We never hear of Jeanne absorbed and immobile in trance, like Socrates at the siege of Potidæa. The peculiarity of her visions is that they never interfered with her alert consciousness of her surroundings, as far as the evidence goes. She heard them on the scaffold, where men preached at her with the cart waiting to carry her to the fire, and she heard them as distinctly as she heard the preacher whose insolence she interrupted.

Thanks to these voices and those visions the Maid delivered France. And what was the verdict of Church and State when one delivered her to the other to be burned alive? Mr. Lang says:—

> A placard was exhibited below the faggots and the stake with the words: "Jeanne, self-styled the Maid, liar, mischief-maker, abuser of the people, diviner, superstitious blasphemer of God, presumptuous, false to the faith of Christ, boaster, idolator, cruel, dissolute, an invoker of devils, apostate, schismatic, heretic." There were sixteen terms of reproach, and every one of them was the blackest of lies. A kind of paper mitre, as was customary, was set on her head, with the inscription: "Heretic, Relapsed, Apostate, Idolator."

All these foul names were heaped upon her because she saw and she heard what the five-sensed men who burnt her as a witch could not see and could not hear. To-day, a generation which is as blind and as deaf to the visions and the voices which made Jeanne the Saint-deliverer of France is canonising her in Rome and eulogising her in London nearly five centuries too late.

It is always so. The story of the burning of Jeanne recalls the Crucifixion of Christ. There is a curious parallelism between their careers. Both were the children of peasant mothers, both were brought up in regions that were bywords for lawlessness, both heard voices and saw visions, both were hailed with enthusiasm as deliverers, and both were executed as blasphemers. Each was betrayed by their own countrymen into the hands of a foreign foe, and in each case the crime of the civil ruler was solemnly blessed by the official chiefs of the dominant religion. And in each case

> The howling mob of yesterday in silent awe return
> To glean up the scattered ashes into History's golden urn.

But the voice of those who heard the Voices of the Invisible is potent to stir the hearts and inspire the souls of succeeding generations, and the Visions of those who saw the Unseen things which are eternal still kindle the enthusiasm and mould the lives of even the most matter-minded of men. The only other human being who may be named together with the Maid of Orleans and the Man of Nazareth was Socrates, and he had to drink the hemlock before posterity enrolled his name amongst the greatest of his race. Socrates, too, had his voices, and dwelt in the world of the Sixth Sense

Mr. M. A. Mügge, in his interesting and exhaustive

book on "Friedrich Nietzsche, His Life and Work"—a latter day philosopher whose teaching was emphatically not based on voices and visions—referring to the Dæmon of Socrates with some disparagement, admits that this extraordinary phenomenon supplies the key to the character of the man "who overthrew the grand old Hellenistic culture and was the founder of a new culture under the sway of which we still live." Mr. Mügge says:—

"In special circumstances when his gigantic intellect began to reel he received firm support in the utterances of a divine voice which then spoke to him. This voice always acted as a check on him whenever it came." Mr. Mügge regards this voice as instinctive wisdom, which in ordinary men is the creative definite force, while "with Socrates it is instinct which becomes the critic and consciousness the creator—a perfect monstrosity *per defectum*."

Nietzsche would have been much less of a monstrosity if he also had been able to hear the voice of the Dæmon. But it is useless trying to explain away the Dæmon of Socrates as inverted instinct. Instinct is blind, automatic, impulsive. The voice which enabled Socrates to reign as uncrowned king in the realm of thought to this day was none of these things.

Another Book of the Month is devoted to one of the Saints whose sight of things unseen made them revered as the leaders and inspirers of mankind, St. Francis of Assisi, who was on the whole the most lovable saint in the Christian calendar. Mrs. Robert Goff has written, and her husband, Colonel Goff, has illustrated in colours a handsome volume entitled "Assisi of St. Francis." It is admirably done from an archæological and artistic point of view. It is not unsympathetically done from a human standpoint. What we miss is the sympathetic reverence for what may be described as the supernatural side of the Great Saint of Sympathy and Compassion. For St. Francis, also, no less than Jeanne and Jesus, saw visions unseen by his companions, and was inspired by heavenly voices that none heard but he. For, like all the greatest whose influence has entered deepest into the life of mankind, he was a man to whom the heavens were opened and who saw and heard things which, even if it were lawful for men to utter, could not be spoken in their fulness by human lips.

The men who made modern Scotland, the men who recast the Scotch character in molten granite and fixed it as the world now knows it, were all men who saw the unseen real things. But even when honouring their memory the present generation fails to do justice to the extent to which these famous founders lived in the other world. One of the most handsome and interesting books issued last month was Mr. Andrew Melrose's *édition de luxe* of Dr. Alex. Smellie's "Men of the Covenant," with illustrations and portraits of all the worthies, drawn by A. Scott Rankin and E. A. Pike, printed on vellum paper. Dr. Smellie wields a picturesque pen, and he is full of reverence for the spiritual fathers of Presbyterian Scotland. But although even he is compelled to admit, as it were reluctantly and with apologies, the signs and wonders which made Peden the Prophet the popular hero of the cause, Dr. Smellie's otherwise admirable volumes have not that atmosphere of the so-called supernatural which properly belongs to the theme. To the Covenanters the world and all the things therein were but as a transitory show. They fought and lived and died, counting not their lives dear unto them, because they never forgot that things seen were but temporary and things unseen eternal. In which comforting faith they were sustained like all the other great men by the voices and visions and marvels of the world of the Sixth Sense.

It is a far cry from the men who took to the moors and the recesses of the hills when it was "killing time" in Scotland, to mystics like the late C. C. Massey, or Theosophists like Mr. Taylor, whose books were published last month. But they are alike in this, that to all the Unseen makes the most powerful appeal. "I am convinced," says Professor Barrett, who contributes the preface to Mr. Massey's writings, "that to Christian mysticism we must look for a sustained and much needed revival of true spirituality."

In "The Way of Initiation," M. Gysi gives us in English dress, under the benediction of M. Schure and Mrs. Besant, an English translation of the lectures given by Dr. Rudolph Steiner on "How to Attain Knowledge of the Higher Worlds." Mrs. Besant declares that Dr. Steiner is "the natural heir of the great German mystics, and adds to their profound spirituality the fine lucidity of a philosophic mind." The path of discipleship with its conditions is plainly set forth in brief compass. It may be commended to those who wish to enlarge their acquaintance with the things unseen.

Plotinus, that man of wonderful ability of whom Coleridge said, "Some of the sublimest passages I ever read are in his works," was another of those who saw. Mr. C. T. Whitby has written a metaphysical study of "The Wisdom of Plotinus," and Mr. S. Mackenna has published a new translation of the sixth treatise of the First Ennead, indications that in the twentieth century men are turning to the philosophers who taught the doctrine of "the unseen real things moulding the unreal phantasms of the material world into shapes of beauty of form and those higher degrees of beauty of pursuits and of conduct." "The unseen real things"—a pregnant phrase.

III.—MAGIC—WHITE AND BLACK.

We have as yet considered only the higher manifestations of the Sixth Sense and its wonder-working potency over mortals who live in a five sense world. Jesus, Jeanne d'Arc, Socrates, St. Francis and Plotinus spoke with a wisdom which reached from

the world of "the unseen real things" in which we move and live and have our being in blissful unconsciousness. But it would be absurd to ignore the fact that all voices are not divine, or that all visions are like those of Jeanne d'Arc and St. Francis. Among the myriads of spiritual creatures which, as Milton tells us, walk the earth unseen, there are probably as large a proportion of as little account among the living forces of the world as the majority of men and women. But they are not the less real. Mr. R. Campbell Thomson's book on "Semitic Magic," which is the third volume of the Luzac Oriental Religions series, shows that the whole social system of the ancient Semites was permeated by the universal faith of the living in the existence of the Invisibles. "Throughout the Near East, from prehistoric times down to the present day, the inhabitants have been firmly convinced that supernatural beings are capable of inflicting grievous hurt upon them." Ghosts, demons of all sorts, were studied then as men nowadays study bacteria, and "the Babylonians cultivated one of the most elaborate and intricate systems of ancient magic that we know." They believed in vampires as we believe in the House of Lords, and for much the same reason. They were face to face with powers which only a few had ever seen, but which they knew by dire experience to be capable of inflicting grievous ills upon themselves and their neighbours. Let us hope that their spells were more efficacious than the objurgations of Mr. Asquith or the barbed darts of Mr. Lloyd George. To this day the belief in the existence of these evil shades is almost universal in the East.

Mr. T. S. Rama Sastri, who is evidently a man of education, writing on the Black Art in the December number of *East and West*, tells a gruesome story of how a native was taught the Black Art. His teacher made a clay figure of a woman by the side of a village tank, worshipped it with flowers, and then made spells and incantations:—

> There then appeared on the scene a female form. It was shadowy, but by no means good-looking. The female form then stretched its hand and blessed my informant with the power of causing death to mortals by magic. The *guru* and his pupil prostrated themselves at its feet, and the shadowy form vanished into the air. The young man was then taught some *mantrams* by the *guru*, which he said were extremely easy, and made to do certain things. Next day he destroyed a beautiful cocoanut tree as a test of his powers. He then directed his magic against a child, then against its mother, and then against anybody whom he had a fancy to send to the grave. My informant told me that he had to kill at least two persons every month, or else his goddess would not be satisfied, and might turn round and eat him up.

It is easy to dismiss these stories as fables. But no delusion can be greater than to jump to the conclusion that because we cannot see things they have no existence.

Take, for instance, the world wide belief in the existence of fairies. In "Pinkie," the fairy play which Mr. Tree is presenting nightly at His Majesty's Theatre, the most effective use is made of the belief that fairies are visible to children but invisible to grown-ups. The contrast between the gross commonplace City man who strolls smoking through a garden crowded with lovely elves of whose existence he is entirely oblivious is a satirical representation of a truth. "You call that real?" says the little boy. The fairies dance round the grown-ups all unseen, but when they will they can whisper in their ears suggestions which govern their conduct. It is only a Christmas play, no doubt, but it suggests a profound truth. Lady Archibald Campbell, in the January *Occult Review*, in her fascinating paper on "Faerie Scotland," tells us that:—

> Not long since a seer in Argyll told me he would that all men could tear the bandage off their eyes that they might see the multitudes he saw peopling the hills, coming and going, not to speak of the "solitaries," who frequent the silent places in the most hidden glens. The best Highland seers of the mysterious clans are in the lonely places. In the land of Lorne I know several seers and in the Outer Hebrides. In this part of Argyll where I am now, the inroad of restless civilisation has disenchanted many a faery centre.

In "Highland Second Sight" Mr. Norman Macrae has collected in a small volume much of the evidence of the existence of the gift of seeing the unseen and of foreseeing what is yet to happen, which is not yet extinct in the Highlands. Even Presbyterian ministers of unimpeachable orthodoxy sometimes possess it. Through tiny chinks, as it were, in the barrier wall which matter has built up around our souls sometimes we catch glimpses of the unseen real things. Those who are dungeoned up in the gross materialities and trivialities of life may sneer at the dwellers in the Sixth Sense world. But it is there all the time. "We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon," says Wordsworth. "Getting and spending we lay waste our powers." With him I cry:—

> Great God! I'd rather be
> A pagan suckled in a creed outworn;
> So might I, standing on this pleasant lea,
> Have glimpses that would make me less forlorn;
> Have sight of Proteus rising from the sea,
> Or hear old Triton blow his wreathed horn.

IV.—THE OTHER WORLD.

Turning from the pleasant land of faerie and the grisly realm of the black magician to the present workaday world, I wonder how often it is realised that the phenomenon described by Mr. W. Canton in "The Invisible Playmate" is by no means unusual! Mr. Canton tells how his friend N.'s little girl had an invisible playmate which she called "yourn iccle baby." N. thought it was only a thing of the imagination, but he himself actually saw the "iccle baby" before his daughter died:—

> Close beside her lay that other little one with its white worn face, and its poor arms crossed in that old-womanish fashion in front of her. Its large soft rug eyes looked for a moment into mine. Then my head seemed filled with mist, and my ears buzzed. I saw *that*. It was not hallucination. It was there.

A month or two ago, I was visiting friends, and remarked upon the charm and grace of their youthful

daughter, and said I feared she would be lonely—being an only child. "Oh, dear no," said the father, "little sister and her big brother who passed over many years ago are her constant playmates. Her brother, who died at infancy, will now be seventeen; he teaches her all her lessons." It sounded rather mad. But what was my astonishment when talking it over at home to hear one of my own relatives declare that until she was nine years of age she had a little sister whom she met always at one spot in the garden and played with by the hour together. It was no unsubstantial shade, but a black-haired, romping child who on one occasion tore her playmate's pinafore. A still more remarkable case is reported from South Africa. A Boer family always asserted that they played every day with a number of children invisible to their parents. "Oh, father, you are going to sit down on the baby!" they would sometimes cry, and carefully remove an invisible something from the chair. "All make-believe," it will be said. But one day the children went to a funeral, and after they had looked into the open grave they never saw their little playmates any more. If "Heaven lies around us in our infancy," why should we disbelieve that the kiddies can see those who are invisible to the grown-ups? That children go far away to a distant unapproachable place when they die is one of the doctrines which wring the hearts of bereaved parents with altogether unnecessary anguish. For the little ones do not go away. The world into which they pass is with us here and now, just as the colour and light world of the man who opened his eyelids was the same world as that dark world in which the closed lidded men lived.

Sudermann's play of "Hannele," which was admirably played at His Majesty's Theatre last month, represented in the fever dreams of the poor girl Hannele a picture of the other life which corresponds to the reality at least in one respect. The next world is very much what we make it ourselves in the realm of imagination. Hannele, the poor, tortured, miserable girl, sees on her deathbed a beatific but very material vision of the world on whose threshold she is hovering. The incongruity of the description of the realms of the blessed, in which fine dresses and plum pudding figure, as symbols of heavenly bliss jarred somewhat upon the thousands who were awed by the extraordinary power and pathos of Sudermann's play. But there is reason to believe that poor little Hannele's vision of the world into which she was entering corresponds more nearly to the reality than the pale, spectral region built up out of hints in the Apocalypse.

I say this because of the evidence of those who have been there and have described what they have discovered of life on the other side—which, after all, does not seem to be another side or another world—but is in very truth a world existing in and alongside of the actual world of things which we see, hear, taste, smell, and handle. Of all such narratives the most remarkable recently came into my hands in MSS., in circumstances which precluded any doubt on my part as to their authenticity.

Early in the year I hope to publish this in a book which will set forth the facts of the life beyond the grave, as told by a twelve-year-old boy on the other side, in a series of conversations extending over twelve months. The book will, I trust, bring great consolation to those who are mourning the loss of their little ones. It is entitled "Rachel Comforted; being Conversations of a Mother with Her Son who was not, but whom she has Found." I think what the little lad told his mother of his life in the Sixth Sense world is true. His statements are clear, simple, precise, and they cover almost every subject upon which the heart of a loving mother would be prompted to ask for information. The book will certainly create a profound sensation. It will be ridiculed and denounced; but it contains a message that will be like Balm of Gilead to many a bleeding heart.

"We were as one on earth. Now I cry out to him. I plead for the slightest sign. I sit in the places where I held him nearest and dearest, and hold out my empty arms and pray to him for a word, a glimpse; but all in vain. Can you in some way direct me or help me, or am I asking the impossible?"

So writes an agonised mother to the editor of *Reason*, who publishes it with the remark. "This is the Soul Cry of Humanity—the Heart Hunger of the Race."

To that "Soul Cry" "Rachel Comforted" will be an answer.

ESPERANTO.

ESPERANTO AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

A lively correspondence has been going on in the *British Medical Journal* as to the value of Esperanto for medical students, in which several valuable letters appeared in its favour. After the discussion had been closed the following letter was admitted from Dr. Kenneth Millican, of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, Chicago, which is interesting from a practical point of view:—

"In the early part of this year there drifted into this office a circular couched in a language not generally familiar. A few seconds' consideration indicated it to be the new international auxiliary language, Esperanto, and it was promptly sent to my desk to struggle with. I knew nothing whatever of Esperanto, and, indeed, entertained very much the same kind of idea that Dr. Shee has expressed as to its being a 'hotch-potch' and in every way unworthy of consideration by one with 'a smattering of classics and the more generally used modern languages.' It was 'up to me,' however, to decipher the communication, so I promptly went out and bought a book, 'First Lessons in Esperanto,' costing a few pence, and proceeded to learn the language, using only the time occupied in the car between my office and my residence, going and coming. The grammar was easily mastered, consisting as it does only of certain prefixes, suffixes, and terminations of the parts of speech. It took me, in all, perhaps an hour and a-half to commit it to memory. What then remained was to acquire a vocabulary of roots. A little pocket vocabulary, costing a few cents more, placed those also at my disposition. The circular was translated by me within forty-eight hours from the time that I first opened an Esperanto book. Within ten days I was reading aloud in English in the evenings to my household a novel written in Esperanto. Within three weeks I had written in Esperanto a twenty-page article on the Professional Secret in the United States, and had mailed it to Dr. Mikolajski, editor of the Esperanto medical journal, *Vocho de Kuracistoj*, published in Lwow, Austro-Galicia, receiving in due course notice of its acceptance. I have just heard from the editor that it will appear in the forthcoming issue of that journal. I wish to ask whether there exists any language, ancient or modern, in which within three weeks, using less than an hour a day for study, such a result could have been attained, even by an accomplished philologist. I may add that I have the satisfaction of being in correspondence with physicians of several nationalities by means of Esperanto. I am no despiser of Greek or Latin or the modern tongues. I still amuse myself by turning occasionally to my Horace, my Terence, my Virgil, my Catullus, and others, as well as to my Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and Homer; but I can safely say that, with all the years spent at school and at Cambridge over Greek and Latin—and that, with some little love of these languages, which are a delight to me even to this day—I have not one-fourth of the proficiency in either of them that I have managed to acquire in Esperanto in the odd moments of a busy editorial career inside ten months. It is the ease with which any man of moderate intelligence—without any teacher, and using only fragments of his leisure, over a book or two that he can easily carry in his pocket—may master this language, that will bring it speedily to that general acceptance as an auxiliary tongue to each man in addition to his own, to which it is already moving by leaps and bounds."

MELBOURNE ESPERANTO CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Melbourne Club was held on Friday, January 29, at the Assembly Hall, Collins-street. As a recognition of Mr. Booth's valuable services in establishing the club and promoting the advancement of the cause, he was elected a life member of the club, and also president for the year. Mr. W. J. Drummond was appointed secretary. It is intended to have a permanent address at the G.P.O., Melbourne. There were fifty-two new members enrolled during the year, bringing the numbers up to 163; but several old members have been lost by removal, notably Mr. Cedric White (late vice-president) and Mr. Thonger, a former secretary.

The Australian Esperantist, published under the auspices of the Benalla group, still continues its unobtrusive but useful course, and contains in the last number information that should be of interest to all Australian Esperantists, who ought to support a local attempt to unite those studying the language.

La Australia Verda Stelo, published by Mr. Collingridge, Hornsby, N.S.W., has now reached its fifth number, and is a very creditable production. The coloured sketches give a quaint picturesqueness, and there is no lack of variety in the subject matter. The "Notes from All Lands" always contain points of interest.

Mr. Harrison Hill, one of London's most successful society entertainers, has taken up Esperanto, and frequently introduces Esperanto items. He has published a special edition of his popular song, "My Juliet," and is trying to teach Esperanto to the man in the street—or, shall we say, the boys and girls, and youths and maidens in the concert halls—by means of popular songs. Quite lately he took the main part of an Esperanto demonstration at the Northern Polytechnic, London, when the Esperanto Choral Society also gave several choruses under the baton of Mr. Butler, L.R.A.M.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE DECLINE OF THE BIRTH-RATE.

"Reader" writes:—

"You were good enough to insert in your October issue a letter of mine on this subject. In that letter I pointed out that the *Westminster Review* had previously published one or two articles on the same, but that I could not furnish you with the dates of their appearing. I now wish to draw your attention and that of your readers to the fact that in the September number of that magazine appears another strong article. The subject seems to be causing much thought. To use a cant phrase, the doctrine of the birth-rate seems to have 'come to stay,' and there must be some reason for it."

THE GENII OF THE SOIL.

THE CULTIVATOR'S FRIEND.

The Road to Comfortville.

If twenty years ago the average farmer were told that he could very considerably improve the character of his land and increase the yield of his crops by simply introducing bacteria to the soil, he would have scoffed loudly or snorted contemptuously. He would probably have said that the only way to improve land or to increase crops was to put on stable manure or bone-dust, and that he did not fancy the latter much. Stable manure filled the whole of his thoughts as far as soil enrichment was concerned.

We remember when the suggestion of an analysis of soil to see what constituents it lacked was greeted with derision. If soil were good, it was to be desired; crop it till all the goodness was out of it If it were poor, it was not worth touching.

But the farmer of to day has, like everybody else, been learning. The chemist, the analyst, are his helpers, and he knows it. Soil analysis is a common thing. Artificial manures are in common demand. Chemical improvement of soil is an every-day thing. The growth has been gradual. Little by little the farmer has come to know that the soil, like everything else, can be separated into constituent parts. He has come to know, too, what is of greater value, that if soil lacks any of those parts that are necessary to secure good growth, all the wishing in the world will not produce good crops—in other words, you cannot get out of the soil what is not there.

Now, good land can look after itself in a sense, but poor land or used-up land constitutes the farmer's problem. How to make it good at a moderate cost has puzzled many a wise farmer's head. He knows now what he did not know before, that in all probability his land is deficient in nitrogen. He could supply the deficiency with artificial manures, but the cost is too great. The land, therefore, remains untreated. There are millions of acres in Australasia that are in this condition, land which could be enriched, and easily and at little expense.

The farmer knows the value of nitrogenous plants, but possibly does not know why they are of such value. He knows that if he sows a crop of peas and ploughs them in when in bloom he vastly enriches his land, but the reason for it he might not know. The reason is that peas are rich in nitrogen. He ploughs this into the ground and the nitrogen is released for other crops. But the land may be will not even produce the peas that are to enrich it. It may be too poor. He could get a good crop by putting on artificial manures rich in nitrogen forming constituents, but at once comes up against expense.

And it is just here that science has come to our aid, and given us a means of storing the ground with nitrogen by purely natural means. Every farmer know how the roots of peas bear little white lumps or nodules, and may also, if he is observant, have noticed that the more nodules there are on a pea root, the bigger and more prolific is the pea. The reason for this is that the nodules contain tiny bacteria, which live on nitrogen and which suck it from the air and store it up in the root of the plant. Clearly, then, if one could put more bacteria at work on a pea root, so as to suck more nitrogen from the air, and so help to make the plant strong and prolific, the problem of getting a good crop off poor land would be solved.

But how to get it was the problem. It was not hard to catch the bacteria, nor difficult to develop them, but it was difficult to make them live long enough to come over the seas. Where they could be used straight away, it was all right. And just here, Professor Bottomley, of King's College, London, came to the rescue of every farmer about eighteen months ago. He captured the bacteria and developed them, and made their constitutions so strong that they can be sent out with absolute safety to enrich the fields of Australasia. A packet of the Nitro-Bacterine, as it is called, has been practically round the world, from London and back to London, and has developed properly on its return. Professor Bottomley prepared the bacteria and the materials required to develop and sustain them in three small packets, these three making one culture. The cost of one culture is 7s. 6d., post free, and this will inoculate seed sufficient for ten acres, or spray a growing crop of one acre. The preparation is so simple that a child could undertake it.

Cultures are available for PEAS, BEANS, VETCHES, TOMATOES, STRAWBERRIES, LUCERNE, CLOVER and CEREALS.

Up to a recent date Professor Bottomley had only discovered the bacteria that inhabited leguminous plants, but he has now discovered those that live in the roots of cereals.

Last year hundreds of experiments were made, and wherever the directions were carried out they were successful. The growths of peas and beans were most remarkably improved, while lucerne and clover responded to the treatment in a truly wonderful fashion.

A successful farmer in New Zealand writes:—"Was most successful in putting on pasture with water. I may state that I put it on the pasture in June, our winter month, and it caused the grass to come away very much earlier."

A New South Wales farmer writes:—"I had splendid results from its use for lucerne. A patch of inoculated seed in my paddock is infinitely better than the uninoculated part. I have had four cuttings from the inoculated seed, against two cuttings of the uninoculated, and that in poor worked-out land. I have an example growing in clean river sand, which I had clipped four times this season, and is now doing remarkably well."

Sowing time is drawing near, and we earnestly recommend our readers to try a packet for experiment. This year some farmers and gardeners who experimented last year are trying the cultures as a matter of course, having proved their efficacy. It will pay every reader to buy a packet or two, and test the cultures by putting down an inoculated section against an uninoculated one, and to see the difference. Only don't try it if the land is rich. It is land deficient in nitrogen that it is to be used for. Good land does not need it any more than it needs rich manure.

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HANDBOOK OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The South Australian Government has issued one of the most attractive handbooks it has been our good fortune to see. It has been prepared by Mr. David Gordon, who has written so many works on the resources of the State. In the preface Mr. Gordon states that its object is to serve as a guide to immigrants, tourists and settlers, as well as an official reference. Truly it ought to serve all purposes excellently. Its 345 pages, with nearly 300 illustrations, make it to take rank among the finest of productions of the kind. Indeed, we do not remember having seen a more excellent and complete one. There is nothing of importance referring to the State and its industries that has been left out. From Cape Northumberland to Port Darwin Mr. Gordon has exhausted every resource to make his work complete. It should find a place in every public library throughout the world, and clearly a place on the book shelves of everyone who lays any claim to having an extensive and complete collection of works.

The accompanying map, which we have reproduced from the volume, and which was prepared by Mr. A. C. McDonald, of Melbourne, gives an idea of the vast extent of our country, an extent which most Australians, and probably most other people, fail to grasp.

INSURANCE NOTES.

A difficulty arose last month in New Zealand in connection with the insurance of miners under the Workers' Compensation Act. In the Dominion, the Act grants compensation to miners for disablement by certain sicknesses, in addition to by accident. The insurance companies refused to include the risk of miner's phthisis in their policies, unless the men underwent a preliminary medical examination. To this the men strongly objected, and a strike was threatened if the mineowners made the examination compulsory. The insurance companies adhered to the position they had taken up, and which was only a reasonable one. A man may be taken on to work who was subject to the disease, or, in fact, may have it in its incipient stages, and should the phthisis develop while he was employed, he would be entitled to compensation from his employer. This, of course, would fall on the insurance company who insured the mine. The companies could not frame equitable rates to cover such a contingency, hence the demand for a preliminary medical examination. At this juncture the State Insurance Department stepped in, and agreed to accept the risk at an additional premium of 20s. per cent., and the strike was averted. The incident points to the risk of the Government undertaking this class of business. Having passed an Act of Parliament, they were forced into the position of having to make provision for its being carried out, and some principles of carrying on insurance business had to be departed from for a political exigency.

A disastrous fire occurred in Warracknabeal (Vic.) on January 17, completely destroying four shops and all their contents in the main portion of the town. The buildings burnt were Messrs. McKenzie and McHarg's general store, Mr. J. Wyatt's undertaker's business, Mr. J. Lucas' fish and fruit shop, Mr. J. Fergie's boot and shoe establishment. All, with the exception of Mr. Fergie, were insured, and the latter will be a heavy loser.

The inquiries by the Federal Royal Commission on Insurance, which will sit in Melbourne, will extend to Accident Companies in addition to Fire and Life. In the case of the Accident Companies, the procedure of the Commission will be on similar lines to those adopted in connection with the Fire and Life inquiries.

Mr. Andrew Newell has been appointed chairman and Mr. Walter Madden vice-chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Mutual Life Association of Australasia Limited, for the current year.

It was with general regret that information was received by cable of the death at Glasgow on the 18th January of Mr. George Gibb, who was once known in Melbourne, where he was a prominent figure in insurance circles. Mr. Gibb went to Scotland about two years ago, in consequence of a breakdown in his health, but the hopes of a recovery were not realised. His training in insurance work began with the Northern Co., in his native town of Aberdeen, and he was transferred to the Australasian branch of that office in 1885. Subsequently he joined the Norwich Union Co., with which he held the position of manager and superintendent at the time illness overtook him. Mr. Gibb was for several years the president of the Caledonian Society and was first president of the Scottish Union of Victoria. He was also a member of the Fire Brigades' Board and of the Committee of Management of the Melbourne Hospital.

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The Commissioners of the Savings Bank of Victoria recently announced that the rate of interest paid by that institution on long-term fixed deposits, which for the past 5 or 6 years has been at 3 per cent. for the first £100, and 2½ per cent. on the excess over that sum up to £250, is increased to 3¼ per cent. and 3 per cent. respectively. The Commissioners some six months ago fixed the rate for all loans at 4½ per cent., a step that has had a material effect on the revenue of the bank, and increased the margin available. The advance in the rate of interest on deposits will bring the Savings Bank more into line with other financial institutions, and should accelerate the flow of money to the former. The rates of interest now allowed throughout Australia by the various Savings Banks are as follows:—

Bank.	Interest Allowed.
Victoria	3¼ per cent. on first £100
Victoria	3 per cent. on excess to £250
New South Wales—	
Government	3 per cent. up to £500
Trustees	3½ per cent. up to £200
South Australia	3¼ per cent. up to £250
Queensland	3 per cent. up to £200
West Australia	3 per cent. up to £1000
Tasmania—	
Government	3 per cent. up to £250
Hobart Trustees ...	3½ per cent. up to £150
Launceston Trustees	3½ per cent. up to £150

In Victoria and South Australia the Post-office Savings Bank is merged into that under the commissioners or trustees; in New South Wales the two Savings Banks are quite distinct. In Queensland and West Australia the Post-office Savings Bank only exists; whilst in Tasmania, Hobart and Launceston each has its own Trustees' Savings Bank separate from the Post-office Savings Bank of that State.

Mr. Robert Harper, M.H.R., has been elected chairman of the Board of Directors of the Commercial Bank of Australia Limited for the current year.

At a recent meeting of the Fire Brigades Board a letter was received from the Secretary of Home Affairs, informing the Board that a committee was being formed to go into the question of fire protection in regard to federal properties, and asking that this body should have the services of Mr. H. B. Lee (chief officer of the brigade) as consultant. The Board decided to allow Mr. Lee to act.

About midnight on January 27, a fire broke out in No 1 hold of the German steamer "Lubingen," lying at Brisbane wharf. The hold contained 2500 bags of wheat loaded at Melbourne, and 2200 bales of wool, loaded at Brisbane, the whole of which has been more or less damaged by fire and water. The origin of the fire is a mystery. The suggestion that it broke out as a result of spontaneous combustion is scarcely credible, as smoke would have been noticed whilst the men were at work loading the cargo.

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It was not to be wondered at that the STANDARD DICTIONARY, when once it came to be known that it was of such surpassing excellence and commanding scholarship, should without loss of time find its way into the Libraries of the most eminent, Englishmen and Americans. Nor was it a matter of surprise that those who became possessed of it should testify their appreciation in no unstinted terms. A few typical appreciations from among the large number received must here suffice.

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SIR J. NORMAN LOCKYER

"It passes the wit of man to suggest anything which ought to have been done that has not been done to make this Dictionary a success."

SIR A. CONAN DOYLE

"It has become quite a joke with us at our house that we cannot trip up this dictionary (on new and unusual words). We have several times been sure that we would, but have always failed."

EDWARD DOWDEN, LIT.D., etc., Professor of English Literature University of Dublin

"I do not think there can be two opinions as to the character of this work. I had formed high expectations of the Dictionary, and they are fulfilled. It is a vast storehouse of exact and well-ordered information.

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"I have been using your Safe Cures for twenty-six years, and have found them most beneficial, in fact Warner's Safe Cure cured one of my daughters of dropsy at the age of thirteen. She is now a healthy woman, with a family of five healthy children. Several doctors had pronounced her case hopeless, and as a last resort I tried your Safe Cure. I can also recommend Warner's Safe Nervine for sleeplessness."—From Mrs. Wm. Greaves, Picnic Park, Lyndhurst, N.S.W.

"About two years ago I was suffering from a serious form of kidney disease. I had pains in my loins and back, and the pain in the back would frequently extend as far as the back of the head. My urine was loaded with sediment, and other symptoms pointed to great constitutional disturbance. I was in this condition for many months, and almost despaired of recovering my lost health, as I had tried so many remedies without avail, when I was advised to try Warner's Safe Cure. After I had taken the contents of a few bottles of this medicine my pains were alleviated, and, continuing the treatment, all symptoms of disease of the kidneys vanished. I am now once again in vigorous health. I have recommended Warner's Safe Cure to others, who have taken it with good results."—From Mr. S. H. Part, Bernard-street, Rockhampton North, Q.

"Some years ago pain in the back began to trouble me a good deal, but I did not take much notice of it at first, thinking it would pass off, but as time went on and I became much worse, and my general health began to decline, I was forced to give it attention. My appetite was failing me, my nights were much disturbed, and I could scarcely stoop for the pain in the back and under the shoulder blades. I had heard Warner's Safe Cure spoken of as a cure for kidney troubles, so decided to try it. Before I had taken the contents of half a bottle I was greatly relieved. I continued to take the medicine for some weeks, when all symptoms of the complaint left me, and I could eat and sleep well. I have had no return of the complaint since that time."—From Miss A. Fletcher, Clare-street, Portland, Port Adelaide, S.A.

"Some time ago, when lifting a heavy weight, I accidentally received a very severe strain in the back, in the region of the kidneys. The pain was so severe that I could scarcely stand upright. The pain would shoot upwards between my shoulders, and was awful whilst it lasted, depriving me of all rest and sleep at night. The remedies I tried failed to do me any good. In fact I got worse, and was afraid I was in for a very serious illness. When I was just about as bad as possible, I commenced to take Warner's Safe Cure, and I am pleased to say that in the course of a few weeks I quite recovered. My back ceased to pain me, and I could get my natural sleep, which I had not been able to do for a long time. I feel that I am quite cured, not having felt any pain in the back since that time, and I am now able to do my work with ease and comfort."—From Mr. T. G. Hillsberg, baker and pastrycook, 106 Vivian-street, Boulder City, W.A.

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